Nº 3,327

THE TABLOID HOWARD **STERN BARES ALL**

COMMENT PAGE 21

CANNABIS FOR KIDS: IS MIRIAM STOPPARD RIGHT?



INSIDE THE TABLOID



THE TABLOID: FILM **BRAD PITT**

olin Wheeler

REDWOOD

'It's incredible

... it will not

stand the test

of time, it is a

marriage

made in hell'

wood were those showing such

contempt for Mr Hague's line

on the single currency that they

could not possibly serve in his

Steve Norris

Very strange bedfellows

Anthony Bevins Political Editor

Kenneth Clarke and John Redwood yesterday joined forces against William Hague, the Tories' young pretender. The Clarke-Redwood alliance ahead of today's final knock-out bout in the leadership contest was quickly denounced as a "marriage from hell".

After a bizarre night and morning of barter, Mr Redwood decided it was time to end his self-imposed exile in the political wilderness and accept the offer of the job which Mr Clarke holds - Shadow Chancellor of the Exchequer.

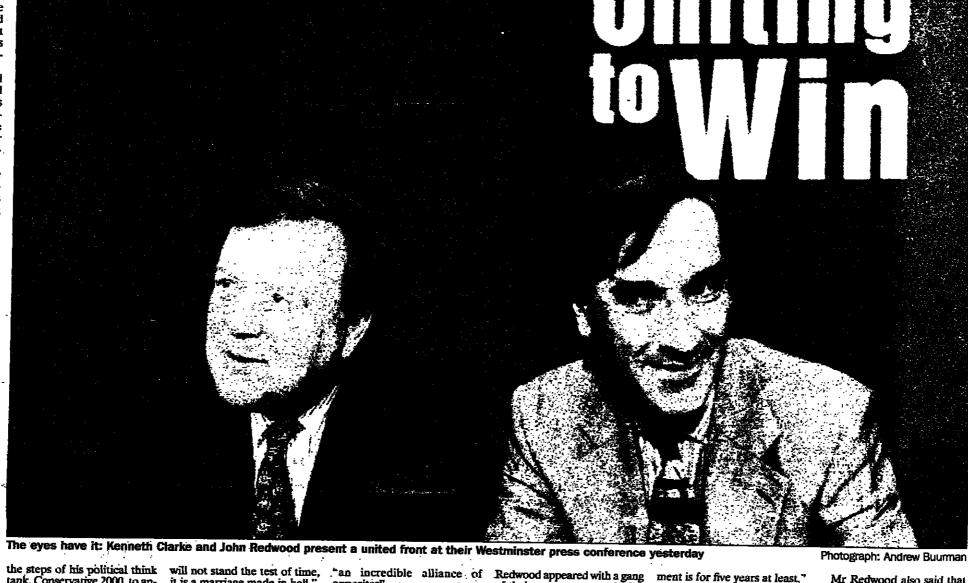
However, even as Mr Clarke and Mr Redwood were announcing their deal, Baroness Thatcher was finally endorsing Mr Hague's campaign on the apparent grounds that any opponent of Mr Clarke's was a friend of her's.

The cross-currents were running so strongly in the party last night that either man could yet emerge as victor when the final result is announced after 5pm in Commons Committee Room 14 today. Clarke campaigners, though, said they were confident of a double-figure majority.

Tuesday's preliminary bout gave Mr Redwood 38 votes and those will be redistributed today. On the face of it, Mr. Clarke needs 19 of them, in addition to Tuesday's 64, to guarantee him 83 votes and the crown. On the same basis, Mr Hague, who won 62 votes on Tuesday, needs 21 of the Red-

place as new leader. As always in politics, there are complicating factors. If some MPs abstain today, the winner would need fewer than 83 votes to win. There was Westminster speculation last night that some of the Hague votes were "slipping" to Clarke, as Tory MPs searched for a winner with momentum - in which case Mr Hague would need to

compensate for any losses. Yesterday was a day of high drama. It began at 10.30am, with Mr Redwood appearing on



the steps of his political think tank, Conservative 2000, to announce the outline of his deal with Mr Clarke - that a Clarke shadow cabinet would be allowed a free vote on a European

single currency. Responding for the Hague camp, former minister Steve Norris told BBC Radio Five: "It is an incredible development, it

will not stand the test of time, it is a marriage made in hell." Other, more senior figures were more circumspect, but nonetheless damning. Michael Howard, who switched to Mr Hague after he had come bot-

tom of the poll in the first round, said: "This is an insta-bility pact." Lady Thatcher called it

Christian Wolman

don Downey.

ethnic cleansing.

Two years ago Mr Wareing,

who is chairman of the all-par-ty British-Yugoslav parliamen-

tary group, was criticised by his party for holding talks with the

Bosnian Serb leaders Radovan

Karadzic and General Ratko

Mladic, whose forces had been

responsible for a programme of

The party appears to have

learnt the lesson of the cash-for-

questions affair during which

the leadership of the Conserv-

ative Party was powerless to take

action against MPs who ap-

peared to have broken the rules

but had not gone through the

Westminster Correspondent

The deal had been agreed in outline at a meeting on Tuesday night. But Mr Redwood's supporters wanted the job of shadow Chancellor for their man. That was agreed, without hesitation, by Mr Clarke in a phone

of their supporters - only five from the Redwood camp - for a formal press conference in the same Church House hall that

first address to the Parliamentary Labour Party last month. This is not an agreement call yesterday morning.

At noon, Mr Clarke and Mr

that has been entered into for the next 24 hours. This agree-

Labour suspends

MP in lobbying row

ment is for five years at least." Mr Clarke said.

Mr Redwood said: "I have a great respect for Ken as a man and as a politician. I think he will Mr Blair had used to deliver his land many a punch on Mr Blair and we need to do that very shortly." Less than three hours later, John Major faced Tony Blair for his last Prime Minis-

ter's question time.

Mr Redwood also said that he was "fed up" with the frag-mentation, or "Balkanisation". of the Conservative Party. "I want to make my contribution

to getting it together." Those remarks caused some spluttering in the Commons among Mr Major's friends. But the most significant remarks from Mr Clarke and Mr Red-

frontbench team. Mr Redwood said that if he

bad agreed to serve under Mi Hague he would have had to eat his words. Mr Clarke said Mr Hague had put forward a single currency proposition 'on which neither John nor I could conceivably agree and retain any credibility whatever.

The two men made vain appeals for Mr Hague to withdraw from the contest. But, buoyed up by the Thatcher blessing, Mr Hague later staged a triumphal procession in a Westminster restaurant, declaring his determination to fight on.

Leading article, page 19 Donald Macintyre, page 21

Charity doesn't begin at home anymore

Paul McCann

Britons could soon be walking around in German cast-offs if the Oxfam gets its way. The charity is planning to bring second-hand clothes from Germany to the UK to make up for a deficit in donations here, according to this week's Market-

The charity confirmed yesterday that a spiralling demand for second-hand clothes and books by the booming charityshop chains in the high street was forcing it to look overseas for its supplies.

Oxfam, which first set up high-street shops in the UK in

1948, is also planning to look for shops in out-of-town shopping centres - ironically silencing the complaints of estate agents and traders in many small towns where charity shops and discount chains are all that are left on the high street.
Ian Bray, Oxfam spokesman,

said yesterday: There is so much competition for donated goods now because the charity shops have just taken off.

"It is very much a British phenomenon. In Germany only commercial companies collect hand-me-down clothes and we see it as a way of finding more donated goods. We would favour Germany because we have a couple of shops there."

In the Nineties, the number of charity shops on the high street increased by two-thirds to



over 5,000 and their turnover has doubled to almost £300m a

year, according to a report out this week by market research company Mintel. Oxfam itself saw its sales in its 850 shops increase by 5 per

cent last year to £55m, earning the charity a profit of £15m. Oxfam considered looking overseas for its goods a few years ago but opted to increase the number of collections it made from homes using labelled plastic bags. "At first that boosted the number of clothes we were getting," said Mr Bray. "But now

everyone is doing the same

thing, everyone gets lots of

those bags and the market is sat-

urated." Oxfam also increased

the number of goods it received by setting up clothes and book banks, but supplies from these have hit a plateau.

The decimation of Britain's high streets by the car and outof-town-shopping centres is one factor that has led to the proliferation of charity shops paying lower reuts and business rates but Oxfam is worried that it is being left behind by other retailers: "We may have to move out of town," said Mr Bray, "We have to look at what the retail market is doing "

Oxfam is also beating off competition from other charity shops, with bookshops in university towns and gift shops in tourist centres.

Labour moved quickly yesterday to try to defuse a second sleaze row by suspending the party's former whip, Bob Wareing, over allegations that he has breached the parliamentary rules on lobbying "Serious allegations" against Mr Wareing have been received by Labour's Chief Whip, Nick Brown, and he has referred what one MP called "a sad case" to the Parliamentary Commissioner for Standards, Sir Gor-

Bob Wareing: Suspended over 'serious allegations'

MPs in contrast to the Conser-

Next week. Labour's ruling National Executive is expected the newly-elected MP for Glasgow Govan, Mohammad Sarwar to hold office in the party over allegations that he offered bribes to rival parliamentary candidates and Mr Brown is

Yesterday, the Parliamentary Labour Party adopted a new rule to allow suspensions in these cases as previously the vatīves. party could only expel MPs who had transgressed the rules but could not take any action to decide to remove the right of until the case had been proved.

expected to follow this by suspending the whip. Mr Wareing, the MP for Liv-

erpool West Derby, will retain his full salary while the allegations are investigated. In a statement issued last night, Mr Wareing did not deny the allegations - which are thought to have come as a result of a complaint within the Labour party - and said he "wel-comed" the Chief Whip's deci-He added: "I recognise why the Chief Whip felt it necessary to exercise his newly acquired

powers of suspension until such

time as Sir Gordon Downey has

He also regretted "any em-

barrassment which my actions may cause my political col-

leagues, my constituency party

Mr Wareing, 66, a former lecturer, who holds Liverpool

West Derby with a majority of

almost 26,000, has been in Par-

liament since 1983 and was an

opposition whip between 1987

and 1992. He has a longstand-

ing interest in Eastern Europe

and is vice-chairman of the

Russian Group as well as hold-

ing the chairman's post with the

In the last register of mem-ber's interest, Mr Wareing's

only entry is an overseas visit to

Germany paid for by German

A Labour Party spokesman

British-Yugoslav group.

made his decision."

and my constituents".

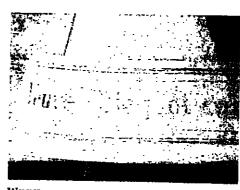
procedure. While Labour is deeply embarrassed at the opening of a second sleaze front after only seven weeks in office, the leadership wants to show that it is prepared to take firm action against misbehaving

said last night: "This suspension is a result of serious allegations

relating to the Register of Members' Interests. Games22 Graduate Plus11 Listings20,21 Management 14



WINNER BY A HEAD



WINNER BY A NECE

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Pol Pot surrenders Pol Pot, the man blamed for the deaths of more than two million people in the killing fields of Cambodia, has surrendered according to reports. Page 17

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significant shorts

Parents arrested in baby deaths inquiry

Police investigating the deaths of three babies during the past four years, have arrested three people, they revealed yesterday. The infants, aged 18 months, five weeks and six weeks, all belonged to the same extended family living in the Brighton area, Sussex police said. The mother and father of two of the babies have been arrested, along with another woman. They are all being held in custody at police stations in Brighton and Hove, East Sussex.

A spokesman for Sussex police said the deaths, which had occurred between 1994-97, had been dealt with individually and considered to be "natural". "After further information the circumstances are now being re-examined by the police with the assistance of Home Office and paediatric pathologists," he said.

New role for technology colleges

Specialist schools, set up by the previous government, will have a new role in future, it was announced yesterday. Estelle Morris, a school standards minister, said she hoped that specialist schools such as technology and language colleges could be used to revitalise the inner cities. Ministers also want the benefits of such schools to be shared by all schools in a neighbourhood.

Ms Morris announced that another 21 schools had successfully

As Morris announced that another 21 schools had successfully applied to become technology or language colleges, bringing the total to 252. The schools have to raise £100,000 in sponsorship from business which is matched by the Government which also provides an extra £100 per pupil for three years.

Judith Judd

Rail commuters face further chaos

There was little prospect of an early settlement of the rail dispute which will today cause the seventh day of disruption on a key London commuter network. A spokesman for Connex South Central, which operates trains from Surrey, Sussex and Hampshire into London Bridge and Victoria, said no talks were planned with Aslef, the train drivers' union, and it was expected that once more some 300 trains would be cancelled Drivers are banning overtime and rest day working in protest at management's pay and and rest day working in protest at management's pay and productivity proposals.

Barrie Clement

Actress champions rural cause



The actress Prunella Scales is to take over from the broadcaster Jonathan Dimbleby as president of the Council for the Protection of Rural England, a leading

environmental pressure group.

Ms Scales (left), who grew
up in the countryside, said
yesterday: "We live on a small
island and it's too easy to spoil
it in a programment of the state of it in so many ways - through noise or traffic, development or roadside clutter."

Nicholas Schoon White rhino trade blocked

A move towards opening a legal trade in products from the white rhino was narrowly defeated at the CITES treaty talks in Zimbabwe yesterday. The proposal from South Africa only just failed to win the necessary two-thirds majority at the meeting on the trade in endangered species. A move to impose international controls on the trade in big leaf mahogamy was also narrowly defeated. Nations did agree, however, on starting to impose controls on the trade in caviar because the Caspian Sea StingCon is being scriously overfished.

Securicor custodial services

In Jo Brand's column on 14 June there was an item about the inquest of a man who died while in Securicor's care. We wish to make it clear that the inquest has not reached a verdict, and so the facts of what happened have not yet been established. Securicor has pointed out that all its uniformed staff have to undergo training before they are accredited by the Home Office as Prisoner Custody Officers. We are happy to clarify the position.

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A Bronx tale: Diana and the ultimate photo opportunity

and the wise of the world's women.

And we are not talking about her meetings either with Barbara Waiters, the ABC TV anchor-cum-tron, on Monday night, or her joint pitch in Washington on on Monbay riight, or her joint prem in wastengen on Tuesday for a ban on landmines with Elizabeth Dole, of wife of the defeated presidential candidate Both Doley More remarkable were her appointments, both kept

strictly private, in the course of yesterday. It began with a visit to the White House and an hour's discussions. a visit to the White House and an hour's discussion, sa and Diana together, may have been a couple of miles with the First Lady, Hillary Clinton, and ended in a different environment entirely – at the bedside of Mother Teresa in an unsalubrious comer of the Bronx district

Officially, Mother Teresa (whose home is normally

and the wise of the world's women.

And we are not talking about her meetings either

Spins of Wates, continued her visit to the sastern United Spins of continued her visit to the large numbers of pour and dejected in the borough. Seriously ill, however, the world's most revered num is believed to be resting at a clinic run by her order, the Missionaries of Charity.

"She will be looking forward to Princess Diana's vis-it," remarked Kathryn Spink, the author of an autho-rised biography of the 86-year-old. "She always welcomes Christ in everyone".

Any among the snapping paparazzi, meanwhile, who were not straining for that priceless shot of Mother Tereterday of the 79 of the Princess's dresses that will go under the hammer in a charity sale next Wednesday.

David Usborne, New York

Bell leaves church in feud with vicar

Martin Bell, the independent MP, has walked out of his local church over a feud with the vicar, after calling him "an unreconstructed Hamiltonian".

The distinguished war correspondent, who trounced Neil Hamilton in the former Conservative stronghold of Tatton, Cheshire, was angered by comments made by Reverend Derek Mills (right) in the parish magazine.

But his decision to worship elsewhere brought him face to face with the Hamilton's when they were all invited to share tea and buns after the service at Mr Bell's new chosen church in Mobberley.

Christine Hamilton, who studiously avoided the new MP, said: it wasn't the least embarrassing at least not for us."

Mr Bell decided to change his place of worship after seeing an open letter in the June issue of the parish magazine. Rev Mills lamented the conduct

of the General Election campaign, saying: "Wisdom in the constituency has not been increased. Do you think that when all the asses bray vou get wisdom?"

Mr Bell, who moved into a rented cottage in Great Budworth, near Northwich, three weeks ago, had attended Sunday services at



Rev Milts' church, St Mary and All Saints. I have been to the church twice and the last time I went I was handed a copy of the newslet-

ter as I walked out," he said. "I read it and thought: 'I can't go back in there'. I don't think he wanted me in his church anyway."

But the MP insisted there were no hard feelings: "Mr Mills is enti-tled to his political opinions. He came to one of my meetings and he was quite obviously a Tory."

Mr Mills said his article was not "anti-Bell - it is more about sympathy for Neil Hamilton". Mr Hamilton said he was grate-

ful to the vicar for his "expressions of Christian concern" but said of Mr Bell: "It seems that the ego has landed in Great Budworth and there are bats in the belfry." Kate Watson-Smyth

Brickie's widow attacks sentences

The tearful widow of a British bricklaver killed on a German building site yesterday condemned as too lenient the sentences es who caused his death, after a German court upheld her private

Len Stacey, 49, died instantly after falling from the third storey of an apartment block he was helping to build in the former East Germany in 1994.

A British sub-contractor, David Carter, was given a five-month suspended prison sentence and fined £2,825, and the director of a German construction firm was fined £4,950, after the court found them responsible for Mr Stacey's death.

An industrial safety inspector told the court that scaffolding and safety rails were absolutely necessary at the site, and that the two defendants, as experienced businessmen, would certainly have

known they were needed. He said: "In my long experience, have never seen conditions like those on the building site."

Both Carter and a director of German contractors ABN were found guilty of negligent manslaughter.

The case was the first involving i foreign worker killed on a German site to reach the courts and will set a precedent which may lead to a flood of prosecutions.

briefing

Over-60s set to double in number by 2050

The century of the superannuated is approaching, with scientists expecting the size of the world's over-60s population to more than double. A new forecast published yesterday casts doubt on claims by some experts that the global population will double to 12 billion in the next century.

in the next century.

It suggests that today's 5.8 billion population will increase to 7.9

It suggests that today's 5.8 billion population will increase to 7.9

billion in 2020, rising to 10 billion in 2050. But the proportion of billion in 2020, rising to 10 billion in 2050. But the proportion of over-60s is predicted to soar, doubling from 9.5 per cent to 20 per, cent in 2050 and increasing further to 27 per cent by 2100.

Wolfgang Lutz and colleagues from the International Institute of Applied Systems Analysis in Laxenburg. Austria, believe that ageing will replace population growth as a focus for public, political and scientific concern. The researchers based their results on an analysis of trends in fertility, mortality and migration.

One of the key elements was a global trend towards low fertility, even in countries of traditionally high birth rate.

even in countries of traditionally high birth rate. At the other end of the equation there was uncertainty about how much longer people will live, with some experts believing the human race to be already close to the biological limit of life expectancy.

BROADCASTING

How loud is your advert?

Television channels are footing the bill for new technology to prove that advertisements really are louder than programmes. For more than 35 years viewers have complained about the irritating ploys of advertisers, who use cunning audio trickery to grab attention.

Although TV advertisements are not higher in volume than programmes, they appear louder because of the way the sound is compressed and filtered.

Engineers began tackling the problem after a Broadcast Audience Research Board

survey of 3,000 viewers in 1993 found that "substantial proportions" thought commercials were too loud. Two years ago, John development manager of Pearson Television, began to develop a londness meter. His final design has already been ordered by Channel 4, and both the BBC and ITV have begun evaluating the technology, New Scientist magazine reported yesterday.



EMPLOYMENT

Going gets tough for graduates

Two out of three of last year's graduates failed to find a job in their chosen career after encountering "extreme competition" for work.

A survey conducted by recruitment specialists Reed Graduates also found that most felt insecure in their first job and believed that a degree did not guarantee employment.

Tom Lovell, manager of Reed Graduates, said that most of the 1,100 respondents - some of them final year students and others recent graduates - were "excited" by their prospects as the country came out of recession, but they were realistic to be concerend about insecurity, the degree of competition and the need to prove themselves.

TECHNOLOGY

DNA fingerprint within a fingerprint

Forensic scientists have discovered how to find a genetic fingerprint in a fingerprint, providing a vital new source of criminal evidence. Minute traces of DNA, traceable to specific individuals, have been taken from objects touched by hands by researchers in Australia.

The technique developed at the Victoria Police forensic science centre not only detects the last person to band earlier ones too. In fact, the strongest profile was not always found to be that of the last user.

The researchers carried out experiments that involved passing around a variety of objects including mugs, leather briefcases, pens, car keys and telephones.

They found that a person can be identified from as little as L1 billionths of a gram of deposited genetic material. Writing in the science journal Nature, the researchers said:

"Our methods have already been used at our laboratory to provide evidence in attempted murder, rape, armed robbery, extortion and

MEDICINE

Warning on suicidal patients

Doctors are warned today against trying to save the lives of overdose patients, who want to die. People who attempt suicide must not be helped, unless they have given permission for efforts to save them to go ahead, the Drug and Therapeutic Every year, around 100 000 patients arrive at hospital after

deliberately harming themselves, but only those who are unconscious on admission can automatically be treated for poisoning, says the Bulletin, a Which? style guide for doctors, published by the Consumers' Association. Dr loe Collier, the editor, said the ethical requirement on

doctors to respect the sanctity of life had altered in the last 10 years, and greater weight was now given to the need for the patient to consent to treatment. By law, the patient's right to decide supersedes the sanctity of life and any doctor acting without consent risks being charged with trespass and battery.

Jeremy Laurance

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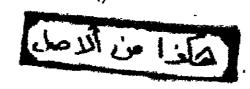
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Jail for man in bizarre antiquities plot



James Mellor

A leading art dealer, who smuggled priceless Egyptian artefacts into Britain by disguising them as cheap trinkets, was yesterday jailed for six years.

In a landmark case before a British court, Jonathan Tokeley-Parry, 46, of Winkleigh, Barn-staple, in Devon was found guilty on two counts, but was cleared of a third offence at Knightsbridge Crown Court. Dressed in an open-necked

shirt and blue jacket, he looked up and down at ceiling and floor as he was sentenced to six years for each of the handling charges and a further eight months for obtaining a passport by decep-

tion, each of the sentences to run concurrently.

The case was the third in which Tokeley-Parry had been involved this year. In February a trial was scrapped after a bizarre sequence of events in which Tokeley-Parry was rushed to hospital with a suspected heart attack, only to be diagnosed as suffering from mental exhaustion. He later transferred himself to a psychiatric unit in Devon where he tried to com-

Just days later Tokeley-Par-ry was convicted by an Egypt-ian court in his absence and sentenced to 15 years hard labour. At the same trial, the

mit suicide by swallowing hem-

Perry, was sentenced to 10 years hard labour if he ever set foot again in Egypt while several Egyptians involved in the smuggling ring were also found

After the jury returned their guilty verdict at the third trial, Judge Timothy Pontius, sen-tencing, said: "These two offences reflect dishonesty on a large, elaborate and sophisticated scale. You have deliberately prostituted your talent

for wholly selfish reasons." The dealer, a Cambridge University philosophy graduate, was snared by Operation Bullrush, an investigation into the illegal smuggling of antiquities

star prosecution witness, Mark which experts believe is worth £3bn each year, second only in value to drug smuggling.

Officers from Scotland Yard's arts and antiques squad, together with Egyptologists, discovered that Tokeley-Parry had masterminded a number of trips to Egypt when they raided his home in 1994.

Between June 1992 and December 1993 he had organised seven trips after recruiting Perry, 30, an odd-job man, as his £500-per-trip courier.

Police had discovered his scheme when an expert in the British Museum's Egyptology department recognised the pieces, which he knew by law should have been in Egypt.

Tokeley-Parry's ingenious plot involved painting the 5,000-year-old artefacts, a bronze falcon figure of the god Horus and pieces from the ancient tomb of the Pharaohs' hairdresser, Hetepka, at the necropolis of Saqqara near Cairo, with a

transparent plastic solution. Once covered the pieces were dipped in gold lead, hieroglyphics were altered to give them the appearance of fakes, large pieces were cut up with a chainsaw and, in one case, the word Egypt was written on the

Back in Britain, it was a simple operation to restore the works to their original and highly valuable appearance.

Parry's claim that he was "doing the Egyptians a favour" by removing their heritage even though Egypt had passed a law which labelled any goods not legally exported as stolen.
The trial has prompted calls

for a re-examination of Britain's law in relation to the movement of antiquities. The eminent archaeologist, Lord Renfrew of Kaimsthorn, said: "The ar-chaeological record of the world is being plundered and de-stroyed at an increasing rate. It has got to stop. British law has got to be strengthened so that it is an offence for antiquities stolen abroad to be openly sold

in this country.



Bronze Horus: One of the artefacts brought into Britain

Alarms sound for British Jewry as the young abandon the flock

Clare Garner

The future for Britain's Jews does not look bright. Unless rabbis start welcoming non-Jewish partners, their fears of Anglo-Jewry vanishing within two generations could

A report published next week reveals that more than two-thirds of young unmarried Jewish adults have had a relationship with a non-Jewish partner and more than onethird favours intermarriage. More than half said Jewish partners were hard to find.

More than half of the respondents believe that rabbis should be more helpful in welcoming non-Jewish partners into the community; sixty-eight per cent agreed with the statement: The people who run synagogues sometimes make others feel like

Rabbi Dr Jonathan Romain is a rare exception. He was so frustrated by the attitude that Jews who marry non-Jews were "doing Hitler's work for him" that he holds seminars for interfaith couples at Maidenhead Synagogue, in Berkshire.

"We already have a crisis of assimilation, loss of numbers and low birth rate," he said yesterday. "If we carry on this policy of ostracising inter-faith couples then we're just going to cut off 50 per cent of our community and it's not going to achieve any-

thing.
"Something like 44 per cent of Jews are marrying out of the faith. It is almost inevitable that mixed marriages will increase as tolerance increases in society. In one way it's a wonderful compliment to the way society is going but the flip side is that there is a danger of loss of identity."

Dr Romain still believes that same-faith marriages are best. "Marriage itself is pretty explosive. When you've got mixed faith it's even more of a minefield. Even though a lot of people do not consider themselves religious, they often underestimate how much they are affected by religious culture - whether to baptise, circumcise, neither or both."

Of the 193 unmarried adults aged 22-39 who were surveyed, only 15 per cent strongly agree that a Jew should marry a Jew, 25 per cent agree, 24 per cent are



Keepers of the faith? being Jewish.

23 per cent were actively seeking a partner at the time of the survey.

68 per cent had been in a relationship with a non-Jewish person.

56 per cent felt rabbis should be

more helpful in welcoming non-Jewish partners into the community.

24 per cent consider belief in God central to being Jewish.

12 per cent go to synagogue weekly, 7 per cent once a month and 30 per cent never attend.

38 per cent have Jewish friends.

32 per cent have few or no Jew-ish friends.

unsure, 26 per cent disagree and 10 per cent

Despite the preponderance of mixed marriages, 86 per cent felt that it was important for Jews to survive as a people, 65 per cent felt there was an unbreakable bond uniting Jews all over the world and 83 per cent felt Jewish "inside".

Thirty-four per cent of those surveyed regarded themselves as "Non-practising" secular] Jews, 27 per cent were "Just Jewish", 9 per cent were Progressive, 24 per cent were Traditional and 6 per cent were "Strictly Orthodox". Although most value their Jewish identity, only 24 per cent

consider that belief in God central to

The picture painted in the report, published by the Institute for Jewish Policy Research in association with the Joint Israel Appeal/Jewish Continuity, rings true for Dr Paulo Nadanovsky, 34. He married "out" despite a strong Jewish upbringing. "I had my bar mitzvah, I had my circumcision," he said. "I went to a Jewish school and my parents - who could speak Yiddish made me go with them to the synagogue for every major festival when I was young. I was brought up to marry a Jew."

But, to his parent's distress, nine years ago, he married Silvia Britto, 33, a Catholic whom he met at the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro. Last week they had their first child, Julia.

"It's something my mother lives with, but something she is unhappy with. My father is the same," he said. "If Silvia was Jewish, I think sometimes it would be easier."

The report found that Jewish awareness was not strictly connected to levels of observance although, for many, the two could not be separated.

Only 3 per cent said that although they were born Jewish they did not think of themselves as Jewish. A further 24 per cent were aware of their Jewishness but did not think about it often. Forty-eight per cent felt quite strongly Jewish, while 22 per cent feit extremely strongly about being Jewish.

Despite marrying out, Dr Nadanovsky, who lectures in Dentistry at University College London, says he feels "very much Jewish". It is a feeling he wants to imbue in Julia. "It's important to me that she feels what it is to be Jewish - not to reject that,







'Cats' are cream for Lloyd Webber

David Usborne New York

Andrew Lloyd Webber will be throwing an outdoor party this evening on 51st Street and Broadway in New York with a feline theme. Amid storms of confetti and a giant laser show, the British composer and impressario will be celebrating the very long life of perhaps his most famous musical, Cais. With performance number

6,138 in Manhattan's Winter Gardens theatre tonight. Cats will officially dethrone A Chorus Line, as the longest-running show in Broadway history. Tonight's bash is expected to attract stars from stages the length of the Great White Way. as well as other New York

dignatories. For some purists of the American theatre, the passing of the mantle to Cats is no opening in October 1982 draw tourists by the busload – so far an incredible 8.25 million marked the negmning of the conquest of Broadway by the people have seen it at the Winders are down, burglaries are



Broadway star: Cats pushes A Chorus Line off throne

er gave it Les Misérables, The Phantom of the Opera and Sunsei Boulevard.

"It is a dagger in heart, and a dagger in the heart of Broadcommented Gary Stevens, who has co-authored a book about A Chorus Line. And while it continues to

Lloyd Webber machine that later Gardens - the musical, based on the TS Eliot's verse collection, Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats, is also a favourite target of jokes.

Being catty about Cats is almost as standard as ridiculing mother-in-laws. Thus, for instance, there is this line in a promotion for ABC television's successful Politically Incorrect talk-show: "New York ... mur-

damn thing about Cats".

It is not even as if the critical reaction to the musical was terribly marvellous when it first opened in New York almost 15 years ago in October 1982. "As it happens, Cats does attempt a story," declared the New York Times, "and it also aspires to be the first British dance musical in the Broadway tradition. In

neither effort does it succeed". As Lord Lloyd-Webber will doubtless be reminding his guests tonight, however, the cat-stats are unanswerable. The show, whose apt slogan is "Now and Forever', has been the largest single generator of income and jobs on Broadway it has employed 231 actors. With 42 different productions staged worldwide, it has drawn a global audience of 50 million.

Other things you should know at the Winter Gardens alone, it has gone through 2,706 pounds of yak hair (for the cat wigs), 1.5 million pounds of dry ice and 9,958 G-strings.

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Rail firms to be ranked in league tables

Randeep Ramesh Transport Correspondent

The rail regulator is planning to introduce league tables for train companies which will rate operators on the accuracy and impartiality of their customer

The moves come after John Swift QC, the regulator, re-ceived the results of a survey his

office commissioned earlier this year which tested how well the new privatised network delivers iger information. He said that the exercise showed that passengers had been sold the wrong tickets.

Mr Swift recounted his own personal experience as evidence of consumer's frustrations to a conference of rail industry

two different quotes from the National Telephone Enquiry Service. I then went down to the station and got another price from the ticket office.

"It may be anecdotal but if this happens to me then it will be happening to others," said

Ulster's terrible burden as victims of the IRA are laid to rest sent hundreds of investigators

out to pose as passengers and identify the apparent failures of train operators to provide accurate and impartial information about fares.

More than 5,000 inquiries at booking offices and via passengers' phone lines were made by researchers to check how far sales staff provided information Earlier this year, his office about alternative routes and

The results of Mr Swift's survey will be released in "weeks". The performance of operators were tested in eleven different "scenarios", where ticket clerks were asked for everything from simple cheap

advance fares. "It should not come as any surprise to anybody that the railway is generally very good at

day returns to more complex

selling simple products," said Mr Swift. But the regulator said transactions involving a first-class ticket or an Apex ticket scored less well. "Much

less well in the latter case." Mr Swift, earlier this month, warned that he would fine operators or even alter their licences if companies failed to

comply with his wishes. He also highlighted the

"crazy" way that complaint figures were used by the in-

"You get figures from the Central Rail Users Consultative Committee which say that complaints are down by a third. Then you get another set of figures from a regional committee which paints another picture," he said. The west coast main line receives more than 50,000 com-

committees report the figure to be in the hundreds.

Rail companies were surprised by the tough words from the regulator. Chris Tibbits, a director of Virgin Rail who chaired the conference, said that he "would work with the regulator to resolve any of the problems he brings to the public's

Girl 'used as guinea pig in test of lethal heroin'

Michael Streeter

Two men gave a 16-year-old girl. a large dose of pure heroin and then sat back and watched her die, a court was told yesterday. Lucy Burchell, a bright schoolgirl who fell into a life of

cheap drugs and prostitution after watching Band of Gold, a television series about prostitutes, may have been used as a guinea pig to test the strength of the drug. The prosecution claims that on the night of her death Lucy

had gone to Birmingham looking for cannabis, but had instead been given the 80 per cent pure heroin at the flat of one of the defendants. The two men had allegedly then sat back and watched as she died on a bed in the rented house.

John Mitting QC, for the prosecution, told Birmingham Crown Court that he could only suggest motives as to why the pair gave Lucy the drug and then failed to get medical attention which could have saved her life.

Perhaps, he said, the heroin was intended to render her incapable of stopping them doing whatever they wanted to her, or to get her hooked on it, or else they "wanted to test the effects of administering that purity of heroin on her". Mr Mitting added: "Each of them consciously took the decision to not

The court heard how Lucy traditived a double life, taking drugs and working as a prosti-tute in Walsall, but also studying and achieving good grades in their GCSEs, although she died in August last year before

school friend said that when a prostitute, she thought it was a joke. She also told the court of a "Life Plan" Lucy had writloads of drugs, more and more

become a prostitute. "She told me she had thought about trying to do it after watching Band of Gold. She used to watch that good idea," said the friend.

report filed by her parents.

of Rungzabe Khan's vehicle.

Lucy first told her of her life as ten about her own future. In it. Lucy said she wanted "to smoke drugs as time went . Later, she revealed she had

Lucy was last seen near posed body was found five days

She had been seen the previous night climbing into a red car

sion of a firearm.

the exam results were published.
Under cross-examination, a

a lot and thought it would be a

herhome in Great Wyrley, near Cannock, Staffordshire, on 15 August last year. Her decom later by two schoolhovs, dumn ed on wasteground behind a Birmingham nightclub. Police identified her after matching her clothing with a missing-person

which matched the description

Johnston, one of the RUC constables murdered by the IRA. Angie, the officer's widow, was

flanked by her sons Louie, seven. and Joshua, three, as she led mourners at the service at St Antrim.

A pall bearer fighting back tears

yesterday at the funeral of David

his colleague. John Graham, were shot in Lurgan, Co Armagh. on Monday. A man arrested in connection with the killings remains

and friends of PC Graham was held vesterday in his home town of Richill, Co Armagh. Ronnie Flanagan, the RUC Chief

force, joined friends and relatives of PC Johnston to hear the Presbyterian Moderator, Dr Sam Hutchinson, call on the Government

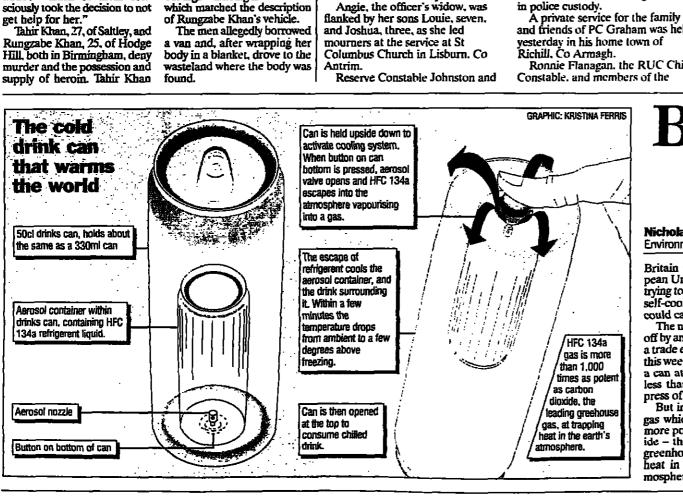
to turn its back on attempts to bring the men of violence in from the He told the hundreds of mourners crammed into the church, and the many more standing outside: "With

passed a watershed, one of those critical points after which things can never be the same again. These killings were a slap in the face for so many people of goodwill who were trying to promote understanding and take risks for peace."

He said there were many who had doubts from the beginning "whether much would be achieved by talking

honourable people who were willing to try, lest any chance for peace might be missed".

The policeman's sons paid their own tribute. Louie wrote: "I wish this had never happened to you. I wish it could be someone else. I am sorry that had happened to you. Greatest dad in the world. We love



Britain tries to put cap on self-cooling drink can

Environment Correspondent

Britain will today urge European Union nations to unite in trying to find ways to ban a new, self-cooling drink can which could cause global warming.

The new design, being shown off by an American company at a trade exhibition in Singapore this week, chills the contents of a can at room temperature in less than two minutes, at the

press of a button. But in doing so it releases a gas which is over 1,000 times more potent than carbon dioxide – the principal man-made greenhouse gas – at trapping heat in the Earth's lower at-

into production later this year. At a Council of Ministers meeting in Luxembourg today and tomorrow, Michael Meacher, the minister for the environment, will ask the European Commission and the other 14 environment ministers to look into what scope there is for banning imports and for outlawing production of the can.

The device, developed by the Joseph Company in California, is essentially an aerosol can inside a drinks can. When a button on the bottom of the can is pressed, the liquid inside the aerosol is vented into the air over the next 90 seconds. That lowers the temperature in the aerosol container, which then mosphere. It is expected to go cools the liquid in the can.

The refrigerant liquid used in the aerosol is HFC 134a, one of the most powerful man-made greenhouse gases. It was developed as an ozone-friendly alternative to chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs). If the self-chilling cans won a significant market share the resulting emissions could speed up the rate of climate change and sea level rise.

Mr Meacher said the Government would try to block manufacture in Britain. "If we allow a gas which is so potent in producing global warming we are completely undermining international efforts to overcome this cause of global warming," he told BBC Radio 4's Today programme. "The fact is, if the self-chilling cans ... cap-

market in [the year] 2000, we estimate that they would produce emissions equivalent to 43.5 million tonnes of carbon dioxide - that is over half the projected reduction in UK carbon dioxide emissions by the year 2000. So how can we be asking industry and individuals to act responsibly in taking every action they can to reduce carbon low one manufacturer to negate

half of that effort?" ICI is one of a few large chemical companies.making HFC 134a for use in refrigeration and air conditioning. Yesterday it said that it would not supply the product for use in the chiller cans.

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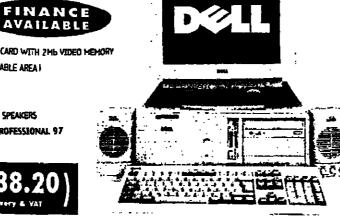
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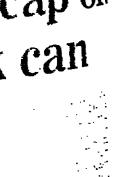
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Glenda Cooper Social Affairs Correspondent

Siamese twin girls were said to be making "good progress" last night in Great Ormond Street Hospital after a successful operation to separate them. The six-and-a-half-hour op-

eration on the two-month-old twins was carried out by one of the world's most experienced teams, including Lewis Spitz, professor of paediatric surgery. He has previously operated on six sets of twins, of which seven children have survived.

The twins, born on 7 April, were joined at the chest and abdomen but doctors were hopeful they could separate them after it was discovered they only shared one organ - the liver.

The girls were transferred to Great Ormond Street at the beginning of last week and preparations for separation began, including a series of detailed Xray investigations, to determine the extent of organ-sharing.

Although they had separate hearts, the pericardial sac, which surrounds the heart, was shared. Surgeons were able to reconstruct one pericardial sac but a prosthesis was needed for the second twin, as there was insufficient tissue to construct a separate sac around her heart.

With the liver there was a considerable area of fusion, the hospital said. It was divided using an ultrasonic dissector, tissue coagulation and medical lue to prevent bleeding. In fact,

little blood was lost. The procedure was carried out by Professor Spitz, Edward geon, and assisted by Alan

tal, Manchester. Four anaesthetists and a team of doctors,

nurses and operating department assistants were involved. The operation began at 9am and finished at 3.30pm. The twins were then transferred to intensive care where their condition was described as "stable".

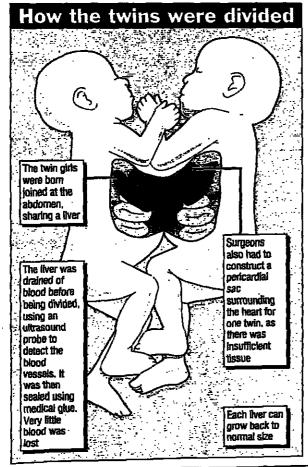
"These operations are always extremely complicated and despite a very detailed range of investigations beforehand it is impossible to determine exactly what to expect on the day of the operation," said Professor Spitz. "Today's operation, however, went very well.

"It is too early to say how the twins will fare; they are very young and have undergone major surgery. They are making good progress so far. We are keeping a close eye on them in the intensive care unit and are doing all we can in the hope they will both pull through.

Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital is at the forefront of treating Siamese twins. Two years ago the team led by Professor Spitz and Mr Kiely operated on Siamese twins Chloe and Nicole Astbury. They were joined from the breast bone to the navel and underwent an operation to separate their bowels in the first few weeks of life.

Complete separation was planned for sometime in their first year but the girls died from a bowel disease, which spread rapidly to other organs at the age of six weeks.

The best known recent case of Siamese twins is that of Eilish and Katie Holton, who were whose lives to the age of three Dickson, consultant paediatric were the subject of an ac-surgeon from St Mary's Hospi claimed documentary.



DAILY POEM

The Smithy-Dances

By Peter Redgrove

While the town belched its smoke out of the papermills The Sunday smiths mimed with their fists Hammerblows at hooves, while the smithwives In gray shirts flapped their white aprons Over their red skirts for fire,

For forge-smoke. I was born again to the smithy In the instant I saw fire in the women's raiment, Man, sweating, and horse, sweating – though

There was neither smoke nor horse in the green smithy - still The smith took the hoof in his lap and hammered the nail; the horse.

As the man in horse-leather apron put down The shod and smoking hoof, reared And danced on its smoke, he pulled it back and the Second hot shoe unrolled ammonia clouds of white Quenched in the hoof. The smith Called for white heat, the women danced The blowing of coals red hot, white hot, the shoe Cherry-red and the coals dazzling.

Yet in this papery city of papermills
(The abuttous of the forest) there were no red-blooded forges And no horses left, only the Smithy-dances, on a Sunday, on the green, once in the year.

The Smithy-Dances comes from Peter Redgrove's latest collection, Orchard End. It is published by Stride Publications (£7.50), as is Redgrove's volume of short fiction and prose poetry, What the Black Mirror Saw (£8.50). Both books are available from Stride Publications at 11 Sylvan Road, Exeter, Devon

Brewer's dray horses fall victim to road rage



Taking the slow road: Young's Brewery shire horses pulling a dray through Wandsworth High Street in south-west London Photograph: Brian Harris

Michael Streeter

The modern phenomenon of road rage has found another

victim – the dray horse. A leading brewery has decided to end daily deliveries to pubs by horse-drawn drays because of an increasing number of accidents involving motor vehicles, and complaints by irate drivers.

Young's Brewery, in Wandsworth, south-west London, from which horses have been used to take out beer for 400 years, says it is no longer fair on the animals to subject them to abuse and danger from motorists, even though they are more costeffective than diesel-powered

Four draymen will be laid off at the end of the month but all 19 horses will be kept on for special deliveries.

A spokesman, Michael Hardman, said: "It is a very sad day and the end of an era." The move had been forced on the company by a combination of road rage, and bad driving, he said.

In one of the worst recent incidents a motorist held up near Clapham Junction removed one of the chocks holding the wheels of the dray and hit one of the horses on the rear with it.

The pair of animals galloped unchecked for a mile through heavy traffic into nearby Battersea before they were brought under control. The motorist who

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Thatcher endorses Hague 'to stop Clarke'

Colin Brown Chief Political Correspondent

Baroness Thatcher was swinging wavering Tory MPs behind William Hague last night in a decisive move to stop Kenneth Clarke from snatching the leadership with the support of Euro-

sceptics.

The former prime minister was leaving no doubt in the MPs minds that she was mounting a "stop Clarke" campaign, telling some MPs: "Don't touch Ken.

Remember his record." Dressed in cobalt blue, Baroness Thatcher appeared outside the Commons to give her public backing to Mr Hague, in spite of earlier reports

that she was unimpressed by the 36-year-old contender for the leadership, and preferred Peter Lilley or Michael Howard.

Mr Howard and Mr Lilley looked on with Tory MPs as Lady Thatcher said Mr Hague would follow the style of leadership she had shown in office.

Fixing her eye on a reporter who asked about the pact between John Redwood and Mr Clarke, she said: "I am supporting William Hague. Have you got the name? Vote for William Hague to follow the same kind of government I led. Vote for William Hague on Thursday. Hague you got the Thursday. Have you got the



same treatment vesterday as the shoes at the prospect of speak-Lady Thatcher tried to stop Kenneth Clarke snatching the leadership with the support of the Euro-sceptics.

Tory MPs who voted for John Redwood in the second ballot

camp were also receiving the seemed to be quaking in their a telling effect. "I have spoken ing to her. One grasped a pink Commons slip asking him to call Baroness Thatcher urgently, and said: "I have a few other calls to make first...

But her message was having

to her. She said I should not touch Ken, and to think of his past record. I am going to have to think very hard about it, but I am seriously thinking of voting for William Hague. The arm-twisting will con-

tinue until the last minute today, when MPs vote, but even old hands at fiction were nonplussed at the alliance between Mr Clarke and Mr Redwood. Lord Archer, the best-selling novelist and a Hague-backer said: "If I had written this in First Among Equals, they would never have believed it. They would have said, "Come on, Jeffrey the extreme left getting together with the extreme right,

eight Redwood deserters last night were at the Atrium, a fashionable Westminster restaurant, to give their support to Mr Hague's final press conference. They were: Patrick Nicholls, James Cran, Bernard Jenkin, Desmond Swayne, Teddy Tay-lor, Bill Cash, Michael Colvin,

and John Townend. Mr Townend, one of Mr Redwood's stalwart supporters who backed him for the lead-ership in 1995 against John Major, was angry at the decision to back Mr Clarke, and joined a meeting of Mr Redwood's supporters in the think-tank offices of Conservative 2000 to urge him, at the last minute, not to go ahead with his announce-

Mr Townend said: "I find it

absolutely bizarre that anyone who fought through Maastricht like I did should be thinking of

and I am sorry if they win - will hand over the party to the left." Mr Townend, chairman of the right-wing 92 Group of Tory MPs, also wrote to the group's members, urging them to back Mr Hague. He held a series of meetings with right-wing colleagues to try to persuade them not to back Mr Clarke's campaign. Others who switched to Mr Hague included John Whit-

Michael Howard's former campaign manager, Michael picer, joined the Hague camp. But there were attempts to in-

tingdale, Lady Thatcher's for-

mer political adviser.

flate the Hague support, in-cluding Charles Wardell, who said he was backing the Clarke-Redwood ticket. Redwood supelecting the biggest Europhile of the lot. What they are doing porters who were wavering last night included Andrew Hunter and Nicholas Winterton, both of whom had spoken to Mr Redwood in the morning and

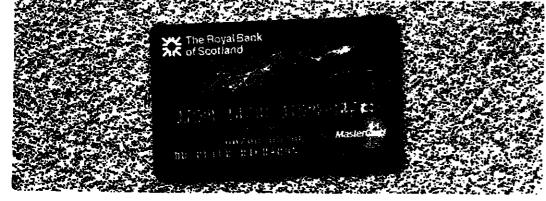
appeared Mr Redwood to accept the deal with Mr Clarke. There was some serious armtwisting going on in the Com-mons lobbies as former Redwoodites urged their colleagues to reject Mr Clarke and swing behind Mr Hague. The former "whipless" group was split with Sir Teddy backing Mr Hague, but John Wilkinson, Sir Richard Body, and Teresa Gorman were standing firm behind Mr Red-

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Jobless plan attacked by charity

Diane Coyle

A leading charity for homeless young people yesterday warned of pitfalls in the Government's welfare to work proposals, the centrepiece of next month's budget. Victor Adebowale, chief ex-

ecutive of Centrepoint, said: This is a wonderful opportunity, but we are very clear that young people at risk must not be let down by the scheme."

Centrepoint's main criticism of Gordon Brown's plans is that six months is not long enough for many unemployed young people to develop the skills and experience they need.

The Chancellor has said at least £3bn raised from the windfall tax will be used to offer the voung unemployed a choice of a six month job subsidy, a training scheme, voluntary work or a job on an environment task force. But Mr Adebowale said:

"This will not be long enough for some young people." William Craig – who lives at Centrepoint's Camberwell Fraer, a residential scheme highly praised by the Chancellor, said: What qualification can you get in six months? I want a brighter future for myself. I want to educate myself to the extent of a degree." Mr Craig will start a two-year part-time access

course in September. Mr Adehowale said that one in seven of the young people who come to Centrepoint have difficulty with literacy and numeracy. He also stressed the need for the Government to end the rapid withdrawal of benefrom people who do find work.

"The benefit system must be changed in order to run in partnership with welfare to work," he said. He also criticised the Government's intention to threaten young people who do not join one of the four planned schemes with loss of

"To start talking about sanctions before you've worked out what the incentives are is the wrong approach for young people." he said.

Centrepoint has been invited to make a private submission of recommendations to the Chancellor, and will be sending

him a detailed set of proposals. Mr Adebowale stressed that the new schemes must look very different from old ones like the Youth Training Scheme if they were to have any credibility with young people.

Centrepoint said with one in 20 young people - that is, more than 380 (00) - facing the risk of homelessness in any year, welfare to work would have to be integrated with housing support. The Government's new schemes ought to be run as part-

nerships between the Employ-ment Service and the private and voluntary sector. Individuals' progress would also have to be monitored during and after their six-month placement. Centrepoint said. Otherwise the scheme would

turn into a short-lived fix rather

than helping unemployed

young people in their long

term development.

THE LEADERS TACKLE BLAIR This was the finet Blair-Major Operators Time clash: it featured Blair's favourite statistic (*20,000 more majores, 50,000 tew-

PRIME MINISTER'S QUESTIONS

er nurses"), and a plum Majorism ("The more the Rt Hon Ge tientan goes off the point. Pre pione he misses the point"), Major asked Blair whether free prescriptions for pensioners "as of right" were to be ruled out of the torthcoming review of MHS hand-ing. Blair stuck in the principle that the teview should be open-

Verdict: Draw

Ashdown, like Blair, began his question with a tribute to Ma-lor. Ashdown asked Glair, if the Government were to be able to save £500m on fees to private consultancies, could they allocate the money to Health or Education? Biair replied that the Verdict: Ashdown wins

THE BACKBENCH ISSUES

*Storehenge (Robert Key, C. Salisbory)

*Alliances of political opposities (Rhodin Morgan, Lab. Cardiff W)-The Finance Initiative (Ian Pearson, Lab. Dudley \$3.

The Oath of the House of Commons (John Mellek, Lab., Wrestlank)

*Sequestration of criminals' funds (Michael Commany, Lab. Falsirk £)

inge could be closed for several months to allow for a full review of the site's facilities. Blair said this would not be pos-

sible, but Key gained the assurance that

Morgan asked Blair whether the allience bet Molotov "or any other alliances of total political oppos him of events in the Conservative Party. Blair said they Amsterdam recently, he had observed Chirac and logid together little did he guess that he would return to see

habitation" at the top of the Conservative Part lohn Major's question, whether the imposition of or pensioners could be ruled out of the NHS as bound to remain unanswered by Blair with

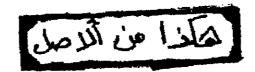
ed school buildings, and the previous Gov policy of chronic neglect of education. Big ly to expound on the "burden of social and



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Amsterdam summit

Britain wins cautious approval on quotas

Nicholas Schoon and Sarah Helm

Britain has been given cautious approval by the European Commission for measures which would restrict quotahopping fishing boats, the Goverament said yesterday.

But fishermen's representatives and opposition parties were scornful of the deal, which sets the stage for further negotiations rather than bringing the controversy to an end.

The Government has abandoned its predecessor's approach of trying to get the EU's founding treaty amended to outlaw quota-hoppers - boats with foreign crews based in foreign ports which have won access to large chunks of Britain's North Sea fish quotas.

Instead, it is trying to establish that existing European law gives scope for restrictions which would ensure British fishing communities always benefited from UK fish quotas.

What Tony Blair has to show for his efforts is an exchange of letters between himself and Jacques Santer, President of the European Commission, during the Amsterdam summit. The Prime Minister suggests in his letter that all fishing boats with access to UK quotas would have to land at least 50 per cent of their catches at British ports.

Alternatively, most of the crew might have to be living in Britain. A third option is that most of a boat's fishing trips would have to start from a UK port. Britain might apply a combination of these measures.

Mr Santer's reply says that Britain might be able to use the

restrictions Mr Blair suggests quite legally to ensure that UK fish quotas brought economic benefits to British communities.

The former fisheries minister, Tony Baldry, questioned whether the letters could be binding on anyone, while a spokesman for the National Federation of Fishermans' Organisations said: "I think that the deal will leave access to important UK quotas in the hands

of the quota-hoppers."
But Mr Blair told the Commons yesterday: "It discourages further quota-hoppers and it also means that those who are engaged in quota hopping are considerably impeded.

Details of the arrangement were not released in Amsterdam for fear of upsetting the Spanish delegates. Most of the quota-hopping boats are controlled from Spain.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food said the letters now set the stage for months of negotiation between Britain, the Commission and

Officials close to Emma Bonino, the fisheries commissioner, denied yesterday that the letters represented any new "deal". She was reported to be angry with Mr Santer for going along with the move.

And by playing up the idea of a secret Brussels-London deal, the Government had risked angering Spain, just as a harmonious solution had seemed possible next month. But British officials reject

Ms Bonino's criticisms, saying that the Spanish have shown no



intention of compromising.

Jospin's weakness, page 12

Net loss: British fishermen say the Government's possible deal will leave access to UK quotas in the hands of quota-hoppers

Photograph: Tom Pilston

Blair's EU deal is a travesty, says Major

Political Correspondent

Britain has become a leading player in Europe for the first time in many years, the Prime Minister told the House of Commons yesterday. Tony Blair claimed that he had fully achieved his objectives at the Amsterdam summit because he led a united government with a clear sense of direction on the

European Union. But in his last Commons appearance as Conservative Party leader, John Major described the treaty as "not a triumph but a travesty". The only useful parts of the deal were struck under his own government, he said, and the rest could only lead

to more control by Brussels. Mr Blair said he had protected Britain's interests over immigration, foreign policy and defence, and had promoted changes "of real interest to the

British people". On frontier controls, the UK would retain control of immigration, asylum and visas while other countries had chosen different arrangements. There would be greater co-operation and the European Court would have no authority to decide cas-On EMU, Mr Blair said he had es brought in the UK courts on

On jobs, Mr Blair said, the treaty would promote flexible labour markets, education and skills. It accepted Britain's belief that Europe's approach to employment and growth should be based on competitiveness, along with a new emphasis on getting people off welfare and into work.

It created the power to act against discrimination on grounds of sex, race, religion or disability.

The treaty would also prepare the institutions of Europe for enlargement, he added. In addition, there would be better coordination of foreign policy but Britain would retain its veto in

A new action plan for the sin-gle market would lead to further opening of European markets to British companies. There would be a new emphasis on flexible labour markets and reform of wasteful policies in agriculture and elsewhere.

An agreement on quota-hop-

made it clear that the entry conditions should be strictly applied.

"We are determined not to let Europe get bogged down again in minutiae. If we are to build a people's Europe, we must stay focused on the people's concerns. We made Britain's voice heard at Amsterdam because for the first time for many years Britain spoke as a united government with a clear direction for Europe," he said.

Mr Major said Britain had given in to moves towards a more integrated Europe on defence, on the role of the European Court of Justice in asylum and immigration cases and on

The employment chapter of the treaty would create expectations which could not be met. The treaty would do nothing to meet the aim of a wider Europe which both he and Mr Blair shared, be added.

"This is both a botched and incomplete negotiation. It will certainly cause dismay in central and Eastern Europe," he

said.
"What he has reported is not ping would prove a major dis-incentive to foreign fishermen a triumph but a travesty.

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Night of compromise as Europe flounders

As weary officials were yester-day still patching notes of a late-night deal into coherent text, the Amsterdam Treaty was already being written of as a failure and

To those who had hoped for another great leap forward for European integration, the final results of the two-year treaty ne-gotiations must have seemed paltry, to say the least. Questions as to whether Europe was even fit for its next grand project of enlargement were being widely raised.

Grandiose promises made two years ago of a unified stance on rebuilding Europe's institutions, to make the Union fit to accept up to 10 new members from Eastern and Central Europe, collapsed in the small hours of yesterday in a welter of bickering at Europe's "top

As it became clear that member states would not even succeed in limiting the number of commissioners or deciding how to fairly distribute votes between member states in preparation for expansion, Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor, was seen stomping down the press corridor, grim faced and furning. By the end of the night Jean

Luc Dehaene, the Belgian Prime Minister, was not speak-ing to Wim Kok, his Dutch counterpart, whom he accused of "greedily" trying to snatch too many votes for the Netherlands, Lamerto Dini, the Italian foreign minister (who fell off his bike during the lunch-break) cruelly bated Tony Blair for

blocking progress on justice co-operation. While the Spanish an-noyed everyone by choosing the early hours of the morning to launch debate on the more obscure of Europe's obscure voting mechanisms - the so-called mnina compromise. Had the struggle to secure

economic and monetary union sapped the energy of member states to proceed towards political union? Only two years ago the conventional wisdom said that the two processes went Tony Blair, who had come to

Amsterdam to prove he could fight for "British interests", found he hardly had to enter the ring - other member states had already blocked many of the integrationist moves which Mr Blair was pledged to oppose. It was the Germans who cut a swathe through the list of areas to be subject to qualified majority voting, so that Britain in the end gave away the British veto in fewer areas than it had offered in the talks.

Spain fought hardest for the rights of big member states to retain their voting clout at the expense of small states. Neutral countries and Denmark fought as hard as Britain to water down attempts to create a common defence policy.

Britain for "national interests."

So has Europe at last reached

And many other member states argued just as hard for

the high watermark of integra-

It would be foolish to write off the Amsterdam Treaty too quickly. At Amsterdam the traditional process of EU integration may have run into some sturdy builers. But from now on, instead of trying to proceed onwards down one single track, the integration train may in future de-couple, and split into several different branches.

Despite the confusion and the disunity, the Amsterdam Treaty produced at least one highly significant agreement, which could yet provide the mechanism for the EU to make sense of its differences: the principle of "flexible" decisionmaking.

The new treaty, for the first time, sets out the rules by which some countries might chose to share powers in certain areas "flexibly", that is, at a different pace from other countries.

The policy makes sense at a time when the Union appears to be discovering deep cultur-al differences. Hunger for integration wates and wanes. Germany, for example, is cleary losing its appetite for old-style integration right now, while Britain appears a little more favourable than it used to be. So why not be "flexible" about integration and stop forcing the pace? The dangers of proceeding down the new "flexible" tracks are many for the Union, and have led some to fear eventual fragmentation.

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Borderline decision: The Countryside Commission hopes that a £1.35m path along Hadrian's Wall from Wallsend to Bowness will help cut erosion

Hadrian's Wall gets a path to go the distance

Hadrian's Wall, one of the country's most treasured monuments, is to be given a £1.35m grant from the national lottery, it was amounced yesterday.

The money will help the creation of the Well Park.

The money will help the creation of the Wall Path, a new trail for walkers along the route of the 2nd century Roman fortification.

The path, which will cover 80 miles from Wallsend. in North Tyneside, in the east, to Bowness, on Solway, in the west, will take four years to complete in a project costing a total of £4.5m,

said the Countryside Commission. The aim is to enable people to enjoy the wall and the surrounding

countryside. At present, visitors cannot walk near the wall in many areas and have caused erosion in others, making

management a high priority.

The Countryside Commission's northern regional officer, Keith Buchanan said: "Hadrian's Wall is not just for long-distance walkers. It will enable the public to explore and enjoy

the length of the wall and open the way to sections of it which are currently less accessible.

The path provides the right way forward to ensure we preserve the fragile archaeology but still allow people to visit and appreciate for themselves the breathtaking beauty of the wall and the surrounding

"We are working closely with landowners, farmers, English Heritage, the National Trust, Northumberland

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National Park and four local authorities to

It is booed that the path will be completed by the summer of 2001. Itis estimated that by 2006, some 10,000 to 20,000 people may walk the whole

It is expected that visitors, boosted by higher numbers of walkers, will spend £6.94m each year in the area, a boost to the local economy which could support about 80 new jobs.

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Delivery man was executed to order

A young father, who was killed in what police described as a "meticulously planned execution" as he delivered a curry to
the home of the Solicitor General, knew the identity of his attackers, detectives be-

Abdul Samad, 25, was hacked to death with knives and meat cleavers after responding to a bogus fast food order which gave the fashion-able Islington address of Lord Falconer, the Solicitor General and close friend of Tony Blair.

At a press conference at Scotland Yard yesterday, Detective Superintendent Colin Hardingham said he could not discount the possibility that the attack was linked to a "curry

"This murder didn't happen by accident, it was planned." he said. "I'm confident that the people knew him and that Abdul Samad knew the people and those that planned it.

He was most viciously attacked. It was a brutal attack. In fact I would go so far as to say it was an execution."

Det Supt Hardingham said he had ruled out robbery as a motive for the crime, which he believed had been planned over many days or even weeks.

He revealed that a similar hoax call to the Curry-in-a-Hurry takeaway, where Mr Samad was the only night-time delivery driver, had been made for the same street only two nights before the attack.

The call could have been a practice run, or the attackers may have been confused because Mr Samad had arrived in a different car before taking the

meal back to the shop.

Det Supt Hardingham said that Alwyne Road in Islington had probably been chosen for the attack because it was a quiet street. Lord Falconer and his family have been interviewed by ecuves and said that they never ordered such food.

Police believe their house was picked because its wide driveway made it likely that the delivery car would pull up right outside, making the attack easier to carry out.

In the event, Mr Samad briefly escaped his attackers

and ran 200 yards into nearby tacked opposite the former home of Dame Stella Riming ton, the former head of MI5. He was repeatedly stabbed and hit with what police believe was a baseball bat and died three hours later in hospital, early on

22 May.

An internal police inquiry is under way into how officers who arrived at the scene believed the victim to have been white. The in chain a series of events which led to the arrest of Mr Samad's brother and cousin, who were traced from leaflets found in the victim's possession.

Det Supt Hardingham ad mitted that the mistake had led to "six or seven hours of confusion". Mr Samad's relatives are not suspected of being involved in the attack.

Mr Samad had recently bought a part share in the takeaway business, which was in St Paul's Road, Islington, a short distance from where he was at-The dead man's sister, Hai-

ima Begum, 23, yesterday made a tearful plea for help in apprehending the killers, who witnesses have described as being Asian men in their twenties. She said the family had been

shocked by the brutality and personal nature of the attack. What we have to get clear

is that my brother is 25," she said. "Whatever he may have done to whoever, the brutality whatever he may have been involved in is far too petty for this

Some members of the public have suggested to detectives that the motive may have something to do with Mr Samad's personal life. He was married with two daughters, aged one and three, and came from a close-knit family of six

Police are particularly keen to obtain further information from the Bangladeshi community in and around Brick Lane in east London.

introduc

They have offered protection to any potential witnesses who may fear reprisals, and an incident room has been set up, telephone 0181 358 1336.





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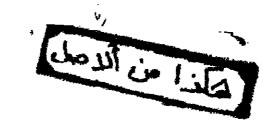
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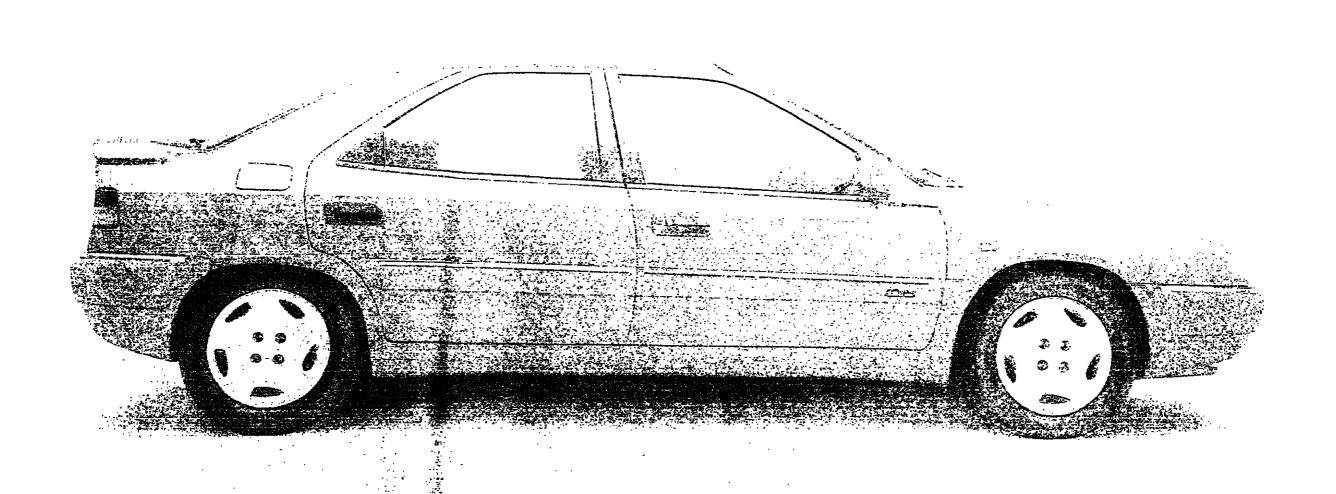
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Dolly's team work on cystic fibrosis cure

Jeremy Laurance Health Editor

A drug obtained from the milk of genetically engineered sheep is being tested on patients with cystic fibrosis for the first time.

The sheep, bred by the same Edinburgh-based team of researchers that produced Dolly, the world's first animal cloned from an adult cell, were grown

from embryos into which frag-ments of human DNA had initially be given to 12 male patients at Papworth Hospital been inserted. This caused them to produce a protein, normally obtained from human blood, be compared with a placebo. in their milk

It is the first time that the Medicines Control Agency has given the go-ahead for a clinical trial involving a transgenic product. The drug, transgenic alpha-antitrypsin (TgAAT), will

in Cambridge in order to assess its safety and tolerability. It will

A further study at a later stage will examine the effects of the drug when administered to 60 cystic fibrosis patients over four weeks. This will be followed by a six-month trial involving 160 patients at up to 20 centres.

The drug is produced by PPL Therapeutics in the Roslin Institute, Edinburgh,

The biotechnology company was set up to exploit the genetic engineering and cloning techniques developed at the Roslin Institute, where the pioneering sheep clone Dolly was born. However, the Dolly team was not involved in developing the transgenic cystic fibrosis drug.

which involved healthy volunteers, were successfully completed last month.

Dr Ron James, the managing director of PPL, said: "We believe it is the first time that the UK authorities have examined a transgenically derived product, and it is a significant milestone for PPL."

The trial will be led by Dr

physician and head of the cystic fibrosis service at Papworth Hospital.

She said: "This could potentially be very exciting news for cystic fibrosis sufferers. It does not offer a cure, but it may prove to offer better control of lung disease."

Cystic fibrosis is the commonest serious genetic disease

Phase one trials of the drug. Diana Bilton, consultant chest in Caucasian children, and it affects about one person in

The disease causes the mu-cus-secreting glands to go into overdrive, resulting in repeated attacks of bronchitis and affecting the pancreas. Sufferers rarely live beyond the age of 30. A spokesman for the Cystic Fibrosis Trust said: "We are

very excited indeed. It's an

research can achieve.

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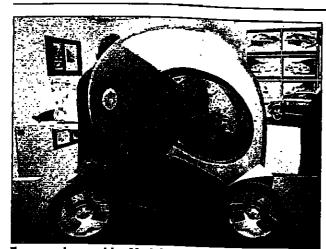
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"The greatest problem for people with cystic fibrosis now is the tremendous damage done over a number of years to the

This treatment reduces the inflammation which leads to fur-ther infection and eventually the lungs failing. It could be a refy. very significant treatment



Tomorrow's world: Models of the environmentally friendly vehicles of the future designed by students of

Lean, green and quirky: is this the shape of cars to come?

It may not be everyone's idea According to the students' of motoring, but designers claim this is the shape of cars to short jaunt into the future, these beasts would be hailed by come, writes Randeep Ramesh Devised for the RAC by students on the Royal College

roadsters.

passing pedestrians on city streets which would then take them to their required destinaof Art's "vehicle design course", tion. They could also be driven into workplaces by one emthe new car will be a cleaner. ployee and taken home by angreener alternative to today's

Professor Ken Greenley, the course director, said: "We will design a vehicle that will perform a new role in London where most travel is concerned - with short runs at relatively

"Currently there is a lot of waste on the roads in terms of fuel used and the amount of

space taken up. A car is efficient when it is running along a motorway carrying four people. However, most of its life is spent parked outside the home or office, taking up space."

With such a radical re-design, much of the accepted wisdom regarding cars would need to be

car's construction would have to be light enough to improve fuel efficiency but tough enough to withstand car crashes.

The RAC believes that if a host of modern technologies were incorporated in one new "supermodel", fuel consumption improvements of more

The materials used in the than 200 per cent could be sions," said Richard Woods, achieved without any loss of

comfort, safety or performance. "Our vision for new improvements include 'slippery' composite cars with low air resistance, hybrid engines combining petrol or diesel and electric power, and a fast-acting catalyst to scrub out emis-

the organisation's campaigns manager.

The car we come up with may not become a reality for another 10 to 20 years, but we have to start somewhere.

We already know that peo-

Doctors reject idea of £10 visit

leremy Laurance

Family doctors yesterday threw out proposals to charge pa-tients for consultations, but cheered calls for measures to deter unnecessary visits to the surgery.
GPs said the NHS was seri-

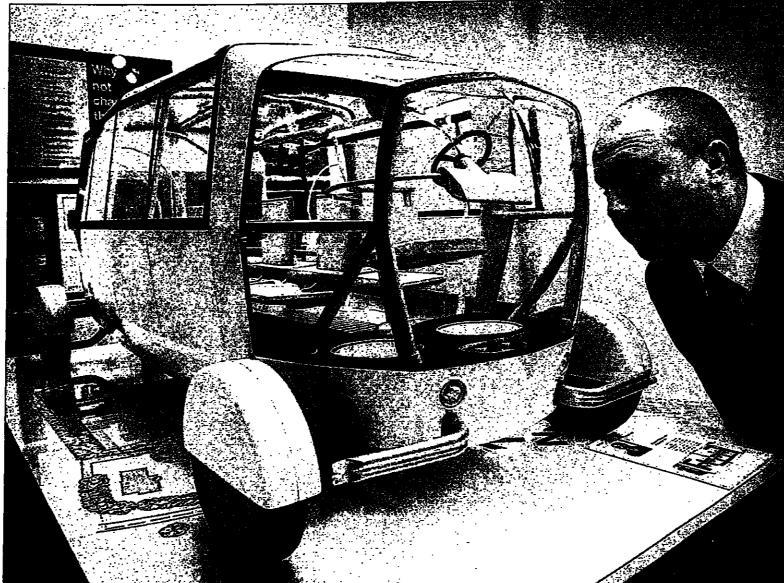
ously underfunded, but reluc-tantly conceded that charging patients £10 a time for treatment, and more than double that for a home visit, was not the way to remedy the problem.

Responding to last week's dis-closure that the Government is considering extending patient charges as part of its review of the NHS's hard pressed £44bn budget, the British Medical Association's annual conference of GPs yesterday reaffirmed its belief in a free service. However, almost a third of

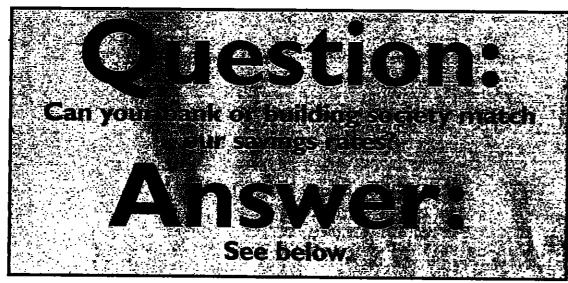
the 500 representatives backed a call for the imposition of new charges to raise extra funds and deter trivial demands. The vote in favour of charges was the highest recorded by the BMA for more then a decade.

Dr Jonathan Reggler of Buckinghamshire told yesterday's conference in London that billions of pounds poured into the NHS from taxation was not enough and never would be.

Opponents of the proposal said the charges would be difficult to collect, expensive to administer and could threaten the doctor-patient relationship. Dr Stephen Amiel of Islington, north London, said: "Penalising ple are less wedded to the idea the sick because they are sic of a car than they once were." to my mind an obscenitity. the sick because they are sick is



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TSB 60 Day (60 Day Notice)	3.25% [†]	3.50%	4.55%	5.00%	5.25%	5.25%

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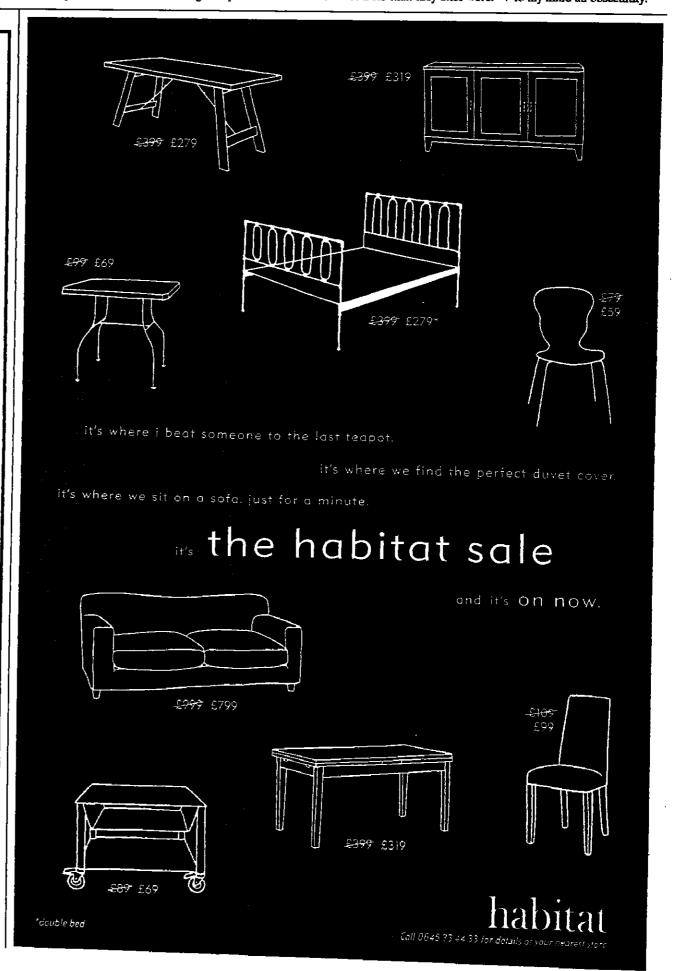
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Modern-day Crucifixion shines a new light into Truro's historic cathedral



Towards redemption: Calvary, a series of four luminous panels painted by Craigie Aitchison, is being dedicated to the Glory of God and Truro Cathedral, in Cornwall, today. The work, which fills blind stone arches above the altar in the Chapel of St Mary, is the artist's first commission for a church; since 1958 the Crucifixion has been one of his principal subjects, but nearly all the paintings are in private collections

Plan to free witnesses from fear

Patricia Wynn Davies Legal Affairs Editor

Radical proposals to help frightened witnesses could mean a sharp increase in successful prosecutions of hard-drug dealers and sex offenders.

Many prosecutions, particularly for drugs offences, are being dropped, wasting millions of pounds, because witnesses fail to turn up to testify, fearing

reprisals from drug barons. Under the proposals by the Law Commission, the Government's law reform body, statements of witnesses later subjected to intimidation or the fear of intimidation would prosecution in criminal trials in

place of oral testimony. The changes would also enable more prosecutions to be brought against child sex abusers, abusers of mentally dis-

abled people, and rapists.

At present, prosecutions of alleged abusers often collapse or fail to get the go-ahead in the first place because the child victim is too young or a disabled person too disadvantaged to cope with the trial and cross-exammation. But under the commission's proposals, judges would be given the power to admit previous statements to the police as evidence. There should also be an additional discretion for the court to admit statements of absent witnesses in cases where the "interests of justice" require it, the commission says. The same rules would apply in rape cases where the victim is too traumatised to face her

alleged attacker in court.
The changes would operate as major new exceptions to the rule

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oral evidence from a person about what they saw or heard.

The proposals are bound to attract criticism because the maker of a written statement cannot be cross-examined. But the commission emphasises that the changes would help accused people as well as prosecutors and could help to avoid miscarriages of justice.

Their report cites a 1994 case in which an eight-year-old witness had provided a statement to the police which contradicted the prosecution case. The child was later unable to recollect the events. Because of the existing rule, evidence which dant had not committed the murder he was charged with never reached the jury.

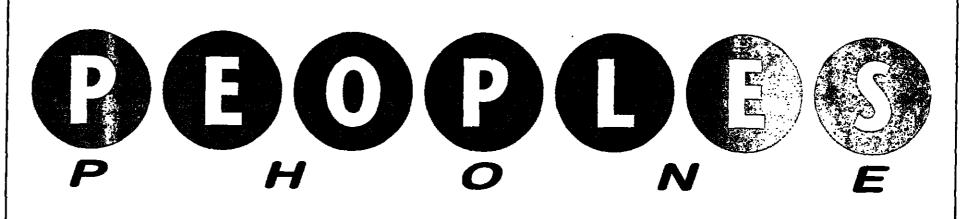
In another case a white man was accused of assaulting a three-year-old girl. She was not called as a witness and the defendant was prevented from using evidence that she had initially described her attacker as "coloured".

Stephen Silber QC, the Law Commissioner responsible for the project, said: "We believe that our recommendations, if enacted, would be of assistance in many areas, including assisting in the prosecution of drug offenders. They would make it much easier for the evidence of frightened prosecution wit-nesses to be adduced."

Publication of the report co-







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4,000 miners gathered in front of the union HQ in Petroseni

Splits on euro reveal Jospin's weakness

Paris - It has not been an impressive first two weeks in pow-

er for the French Socialists. Tuesday's zigs and zags in Amsterdam - with three dif-ferent, publicly stated policies on Emu on the course of one day - capped 10 days of incoherence, drift and indecision

on European policy.

Some friendly French commentators suggest this has been a deliberate kicking-up of dust, to buy the new government time for the far tougher deci-sions on Emu which lie ahead.

But much of the dust has been kicked into the face of a German government which faces its own struggle for domestic survival. The personal relationships, at the heart of the alliance between France and Germany, have rarely been more strained.

It can be argued that Lionel Jospin, the new French Prime Minister, was unlucky with the



John Lichfield looks at the fall-out for the French following Amsterdam

international agenda. He had tricht rules. Whatever the case, only two weeks to prepare for the EU summit in Amsterdam. But the inconsistencies of the past week suggest a more fundamental problem.

At one level, this is a gov-ernment unprepared for office because it did not expect to win the election. More than that, it is a government struggling to make sense of a campaign agen-da loaded with populist and con-tradictory ideas. No one expected to have to put them into practice within two weeks

of taking power.
Thus, the Socialists promised to enter the single currency on time; to avoid all new taxes and spending cuts to meet the Emu guidelines; and to shift the whole direction of Emu policy away from rigid monetarist orthodoxy towards growth and

Mr Jospin has promised to govern openly and honestly and carry out in office what he promised in opposition. But he must know that it is not pos-sible to deliver all these promis-es at once, leaving aside the pledges to increase unemploy-ment benefit and the minimum wage and create 700,000 sub-

Thus, the European affairs minister, Pierre Moscovici, was, in a sense, only restating policy when he said on Tuesday that the government would have to audit the public finances before it knew whether or not it could join Emu. Even without the cost of the campaign promises, the French budget is said to be heading for a deficit this year of petween 3.8 and 4 per cent of GNP, well beyond the Maastricht guideline of 3 per cent. The finance minister, Do-

ninique Strauss-Kahn, was also, in a sense, stating the obvious when he said France needed a generous and flexible interpretation of the guidelines to keep

Finally, with the markets and over the place, a rattled-lookng government policy when he gave a "profound commitment" on Tuesday night "to achieve the ingle currency on time". On a generous interpretation,

ed ministers speaking with the candour of opposition spokesmen. On a more realistic interpretation, the new French government is split down the middle on Emu policy.

this was a case of newly-mint-

On the most cynical inter-pretation, the whole performance has been choreographed to put pressure on the Germans more space within the Maas- German alliance.

public agonising and disagreement is unlikely to help anyone. if it convinces the bond and currency markets that Emu is dead and waiting to be buried.

The timing of Mr Moscovi-ci's comments especially infuriated the Germans. Chancellor Kohl's fragile domestic position on Emu had already been weakened by Mr Jospin's decision to take hostage the Stability Pact on budgetary discipline within the Emu.

The row had been resolved the day before on German terms, with Mr Jospin accepting vague new texts on job creation and macro-economic management. But Chancellor

'The price has been severe strain – even outright distrust – within the Franco-German alliance'

Kohl's opposition, including some from within the senior ranks of the Bavarian Christian Democrat, seized gratefully on the row as further proof that a franc-deutschmark marriage would be a disaster.

Imagine, therefore, the Chancellor's mood when the next day a senior French politician suggested Paris was con-sidering leaving him and every one else at the altar.

Mr Jospin's decision to back down on the Stability Pact has been treated relatively kindly at home. The centre-left newspaper Liberation said he made a serious mistake in trying to ex-German officials wobbling all tort better terms from Mr Kohl at the Franco-German summit ing Mr Jospin was also restat- in Poitiers. It has also emerged that President Jacques Chirac did threaten last week to cause a full-scale crisis of "co-habitation" if Mr Jospin carried out his threat to block the Stability Pact in Amsterdam.

There has been some grumbling among Communists (though not from the party leadership). Otherwise, most commentators have accepted Mr Jospin gained a little ground

in awkward circumstances. As Le Monde pointed out, however, the price has been severe strain - even outright and others to allow France distrust - within the Franco-

modern to be a report

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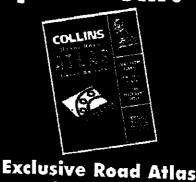
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Endangered alliance: Dithering by Jospin (left) has dealt a blow to Kohl's own chances of survival CAR INSURANCE Looking

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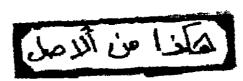


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AN OPEN LETTER TO HER MAJESTY QUEEN ELIZABETH II QUEEN OF AUSTRALIA

We write to appeal to you as Australia's constitutional Head of State. We do so as a matter of some urgency and not without hope. We are looking to you to protect the interests of the Aboriginal and Torres Straft Islander peoples of this land, Australia.

We love this land and are proud of our achievements but we cannot be truly at peace in this country until such time as we properly acknowledge our full history and remedy what can, and must, be put to rights.

The history of the treatment of the first Australians at the hands of Europeans is a sad one. It is a tale of disease, treachery, deprivation and murder.

For many decades - as recently as the 1970s - Aboriginal babies and children were forcibly taken from their mothers, to be brought up in missions and foster families and assimilated into white society. Many were used as cheap labour, many were sexually abused. All were meant to be stripped of their culture and identity. Many never saw their mothers or fathers again. They have become known as "the stolen generation".

The Australian Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission has just issued a major report concluding that past Australian government policy resulting in the 'stolen generations' constituted an act of genocide, as defined in The International Convention of 1948. Their finding has been supported by The Executive Council Of Australian Jewry. It makes for harrowing reading, and has moved many to tears including parliamentarians and distinguished jurists. Your Governor General, His Excellency the Hon Sir William Deane, has given a gracious and generous apology. However, the report called for a national apology from the Prime Minister of Australia, but so far he has refused.

It was only in 1967, that Australians decided in a referendum to recognise indigenous Australians as human beings to be counted in the census rather than being counted among Australia's flora and fauna.

As recently as March 1996, following a visit to Australia, Amnesty International reported "...a pattern of III-treatment and arbitrary arrests occurs against a backdrop of systematic discrimination against Abortgines".

Even now an Aboriginal child is three to five times more likely to die in infancy than other Australian children. Most Australians will live into their seventles, while most Aborigines will die in their fiffies. Australia is one of the richest countries in the world but still has not provided safe drinking water to many Aboriginal communities.

Despite the odds, Aboriginal people have survived in Australia. They do not want to dwell on the past or to apportion blame. They are people of exceptional generosity of spirit, who are working hard to climb out of the whirlpool of ill-health, sorrow and social dislocation which Australian colonisation has caused. Their vision of the future is one of harmonious co-existence with their fellow Australians.

But this vision can only be realised if Aboriginal people have access to their traditional lands. Land is special to all who live and work on it, but to Aboriginal people land is of exceptional splittual and cultural importance. Their religious traditions and culture cannot be practised without access to sacred and culturally significant sites, making land central to both their sense of identity and their survival. Land also enables Aboriginal people to negotiate about their future and to benefit from economic development.

Alone of Britain's former colonies there has been no treaty with Australia's first inhabitants. It was not until 1992 that the Australian High Court acknowledged that Australia was in fact inhabited when Capitain Cook landed in 1770, and that Abortginal people in many parts of Australia still have some rights to their land. Six months ago the High Court further ruled that native title rights could co-exist with the rights of pastoralists.

Your Prime Minister, Mr Howard, is now proposing legislation which will take away most of these remaining Aboriginal rights to land - legislation that will give that land to the pastoral industry, an industry dominated by Australia's largest and wealthiest companies and families. Many overseas companies and individuals also stand to benefit.

Despite appeals from the leaders of the other parties in Parliament he refuses to guarantee his legislation will comply with Australian laws against racial discrimination. Prime Minister Howard refuses to guarantee that constitutional powers will not be used against the interests of the first Australians.

Aboriginal people are not asking for anyone's land to be taken away. They simply want the right to co-exist and to live with mutual respect.

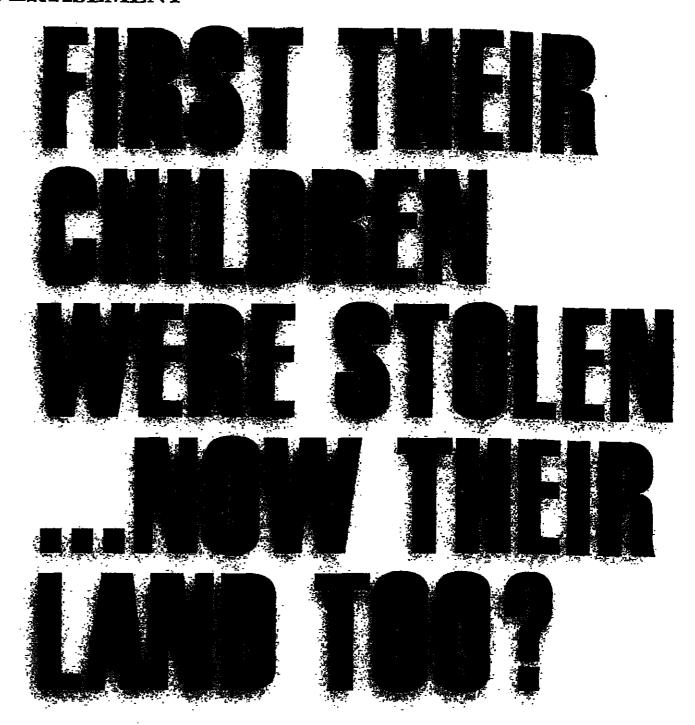
At the time of the granting of pastoral leases last century the Crown stated its concern for the rights of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples of this continent. Historical records demonstrate that the intention in pursuing pastoral leases was to preserve the hunting and other rights of The Aboriginal occupants, not to drive them into the sea. Today those rights are at grave risk, and many fear that the final act of dispossession is about to occur. In these circumstances we appeal to you to take all appropriate steps within your power to ensure all Australians have full enjoyment of their rights, most particularly the full Native Title rights which the High Court has properly

We also appeal to you to do all within your powers as Australia's Head of State to ensure a full apology to the 'stolen generation' and all those who have suffered from the policies of forced removals of children, as recommended by Sir Ronald Wilson and the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission. We commend your willingness, evident in the apologies you offered to the indigenous peoples of New Zealand, to recognise and acknowledge the continuing effect of past injustices.

We particularly ask that you seize the opportunity of your meeting this week with Prime Minister Howard to pursue these matters.

Yours sincerely.

Australians for Native Title
Liberty (The Australian Council for Civil Liberties)
The Australian Forum of Human Rights Organisation (Action Committee)
Sisters of St Joseph (NSW)
The Human Rights Council of Australia,
The Australian Conservation Foundation,
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Community and Public Sector Union (PSU Group)
Australian Youth Policy and Action Committee
Construction, Forestry, Mining and Energy Union (National Office)





AN APPEAL TO THE BRITISH PEOPLE:

As Australians we share the views of the British Prime Minster on the Importance of human rights in domestic and foreign policy. We support the appeal to Mr Blair to raise this grave human rights situation with Mr Howard in their discussions and to seek a commitment from him to respect the views of Indigenous Australians and to work together with them for the realisation of their human rights.

As Australians we acknowledge the ties of history and shared values with the women and men of the United Kingdom. Many of you have been part of our history. We need your help now to help us build a future free of discrimination and based on respect for the rights of the first Australians.

Piease write to the Australian High Commissioner, in London at Australia House, The Strand, London, WC2 4LA urging the Australian Government to respect the anti-discrimination legislation and to pursue a path of true co-existence between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Australians.

Please send in a donation to the address below to help this campaign:

Sales San San San Sales	Yes, I would like to help make sure the rights of Aboriginal Australians to their land and culture are respected and the survivors of the forced removals of babies and children receive an apology and proper compensation.
The second	Please accept my donation of:
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The second of the second second	Please make cheques out to "International Supporters of Australian Native Title". Please send to: 68a Clapham Manor Street, Battersea, London, SW4 6DZ
- C.	Please tick the box if you would like further info and enclose a sae.

Cyprus gripped by optimism and

Christopher de Bellaigue

Optimism and dread are swirling around Cyprus's two communities and their respective motherlands, Turkey and Greece. Optimism, because President Bill Clinton recently asked his trouble-shooter, Richard Holbrooke, to come up with a solution for the troubled island. Dread, because success at forthcoming talks between Cyprus's Greek and Turkish leaders is far from assured.

The signs are not propitious. Glafkos Clerides, the Greek Cypriot President, says he will attend the UN-sponsored talks in New York which begin next month only to divert charges of bad faith. Besides, going soft on the Turks could cost Mr Clerides points in next year's presidential election.

Rauf Denktas, the Turkish Cypriot leader, is uncompro- Holbrooke, who earlier this bicommunal federation which



mising, too. He reminds his sponsors in Ankara of \$600mworth of anti-aircraft missiles which the Greek Cypriots are preparing to receive from Rus-sia. Turkish mainlanders, who have 36,000 troops on the island, say the missiles will threaten Turkish airspace and mutter

about pre-emptive action. Into this melée has come Mr which means setting up the



dread as US aims to make peace

month was made Mr Clinton's both sides say they want special representative on Cyprus. The appointment is significant not only because Mr Holbrooke has the President's ear, but because his approach

to international disputes is "re-sults-oriented", diplomacyspeak for getting things done. Helping to clear up Cyprus -

would advance Mr Holbrooke's claims to the position he covets most: that of Secretary of State. Since Turkey landed troops

coup there threatened enosis (unity) with Greece, Cypriot Turks and Greeks have lived in generally peaceful isolation from one another. This situation

resigned yesterday - hours after securing backing in Parliament for a political manoeuvre that would keep his Islamic Welfare Party in the government – in an attempt to mollify a military angered by his Islamic policies. Under Mr Erbakan's strategy, Tansu Ciller, the Deputy Prime

Minister, would take over. But President Suleyman Demirel still had to designate Mrs Ciller, who is also Foreign Minister. but suits Cyprus's Turkish minority, which constitutes 18 per

trols 37 per cent of the land. The immediate problem is a on the island in 1974, after a massive build-up of arms on both sides. The Greeks' new missile system is one part of a defence upgrade which is expected to cost them - and Greece proper - \$2.6bn. The Turks are busy arming too.

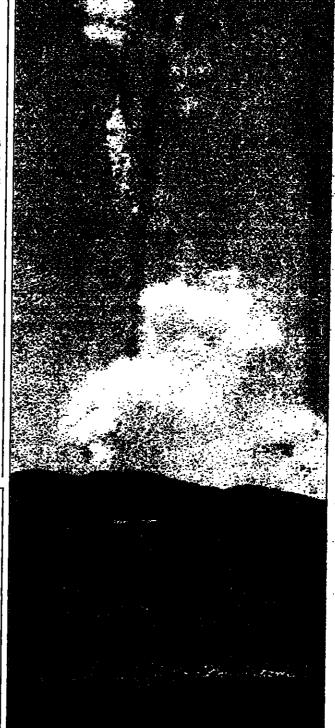
cent of the population but con-

Ankara, Turkey (AP) — Necmettin Erbakan, the Prime Minister, to negotiate in good faith is hard, as no one save Turkey recognises Mr Denktas's Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus. Last week, Mr Denktas can-

celled a meeting with Sir David Hannay after learning Britain's representative on Cyprus had met members of the Greek Cypriot parliament, but would meet none from its Turkish Cypriot counterpart.

The European Commission is due to begin talks on Cyprus' accession to the EU next spring. Mr Clerides knows that not going to New York would prejudice Cyprus's chances of entry. In the same way, mainland Turks know that solving the dispute is the best way to advance their own claims to membership.

What annoys Turks is the line repeated by Sir David – that Cyprus will join the EU, whether there has been a settlement or not.



Lethal message: Israeli missiles take off, heading for a Hizbollah base in Lebanon yesterday Photograph: AFP

Netanyahu in full control as rival quits

Patrick Cockburn

"As long as I had faith in the Prime Minister I remained in the government," said Dan Meridor, the Israeli Finance Minister, explaining his overnight resignation from the government of Benjamin Netanyahu.

In theory, his departure came after a disagreement over currency reform. But Israeli commentators have no doubt that the Prime Minister wanted to

get rid of a long-term rival.

Once again Mr Netanyahu
has underlined his ruthlessness and effectiveness in disposing of enemies. A shocked Mr Meridor, a leading member of the Likud party, said the Prime Minister had suddenly developed an intense interest in the extent to which the shekel, the Israeli currency, will be allowed to float. Rejecting a compromise worked out with the Bank of Israel, Mr Netanyahu insisted on a cabinet vote, which went against Mr Meridor.

Had Mr Meridor resigned two months ago, when police called for the indictment of the Prime Minister over the appointment of Roni Bar-On. one of his political cronies, as the attorney-general. Mr Netanyahu might have suffered serious political damage. But the departure of the Finance Minister now, probably to be replaced by Ariel Sharon, the Infrastructure Minister, or by Yaakov Neeman, a former Justice Minister, is something that Mr Netanyahu can afford to take in his stride.

The timing of Mr Meridor's resignation confirms the impression that he has poor judgement. At the time of the Bar-On affair, few of Mr Netanyahu's cabinet came out in support. The scanda laid to rest last Sunday when the Supreme Court rejected petitions against the decision by the attorney-general not to prose-cute the Prime Minister.

Mr Netanyahu appears to have decided to move immediately against Mr Meridor. He may also have decided to target other members of the cabinet suspected of disloyalty during the scandal.

Mr Netanyahu is looking more secure than at any time during his first year in office. He has his cabinet under control. Confrontation with Yasser Arafat, the Palestinian leader, over building a new Jewish settlement at Har Homa, in Jerusalem, has not provoked widespread violence. US support for Israel has not faltered and the anger of Arab states has proved ineffectual.



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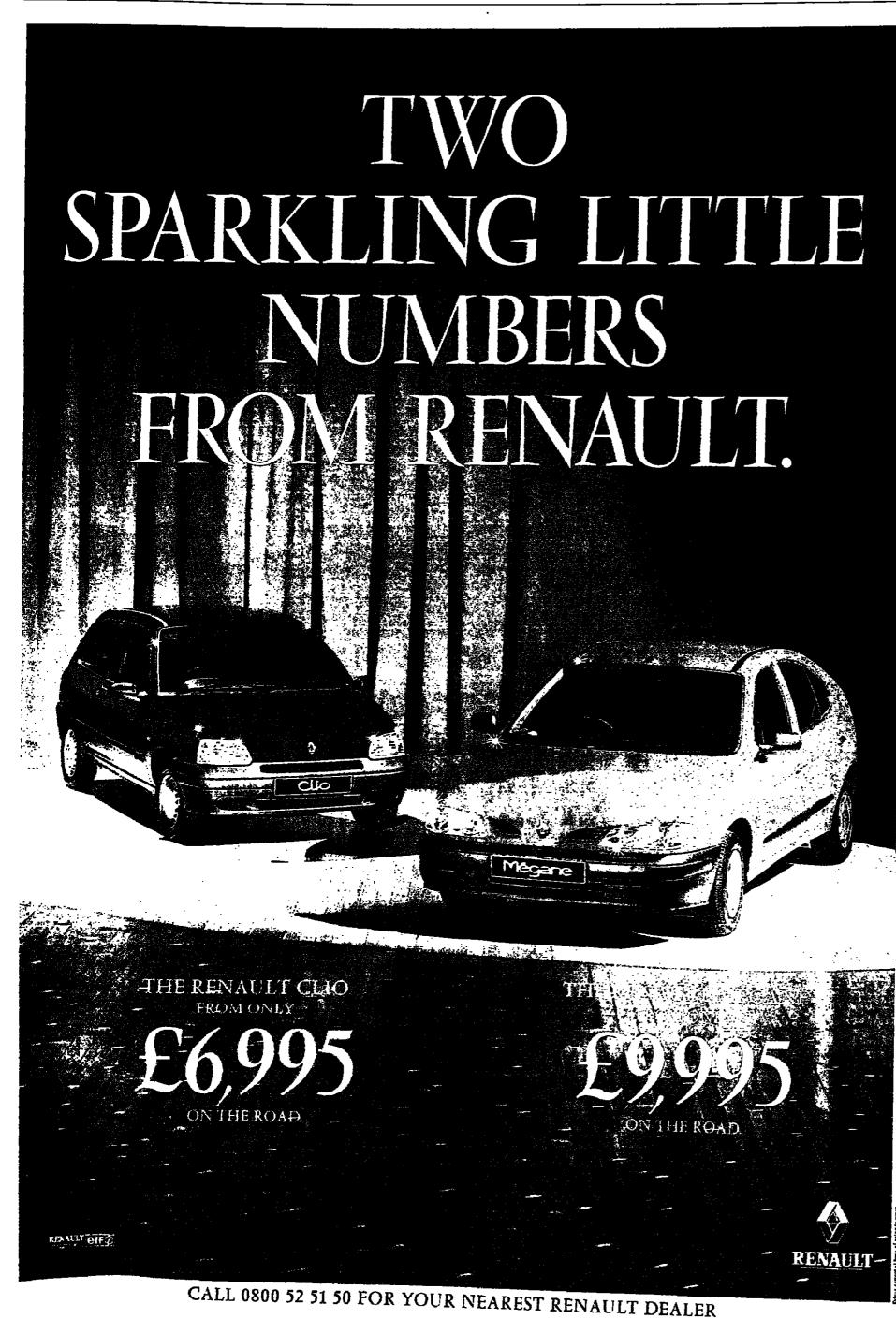
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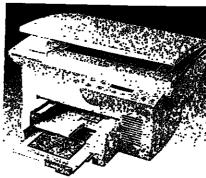
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handover Hong Kong

Tension rises as Taiwan moves up China's list

Stephen Vines Hong Kong

The return of Hong Kong to Chinese sovereignty was sup-posed to be a model for Taiwan's reunification with the motherland. But it is causing problems for all three parties.

When the paramount Chinese leader, Deng Xiaoping, devised his plan for one country, two systems, he was mainly thinking of its application to Tairons until successing that the wan, while suggesting that the model would be tested in Hong Kong after the return to Chinese sovereignty on 1 July.

However, as the handover nears, tension between China and Taiwan has again risen with the latter announcing a major military exercise to start on Monday. China is rumoured to

be planning a counter-exercise. The presence of John Chang, Taiwan's foreign minister, in the United States has also raised the temperature, following official Chinese protests and allegations that the visit is in breach of agreements to "restrict US-Taiwan relations to the unofficial

be taking the lead in upping the ante, is nevertheless in the em-barrassing position of having to join China in welcoming the end of colonial rule and the reunification of a part of China.

This is why some 60 Taiwanese representatives will be present at the handover cere-mony. The delegation is likely to be headed by Koo Chen-fu, a businessman and leader of the quasi-official Straits Exchange Foundation which is taking the first steps in holding reunification

talks with Chinese counterparts. As ever, Taiwan's presence is no simple matter. The Taiwan government insists that its rep-resentatives must not be seated with Chinese local government officials, implying that Taiwan is

no more than a province.

Earlier in the year the Chinese Communist Party distributed an internal document describing 1997 as a "crucial year" which would see 'the historic resumption of sovereignty over Hong Kong' and signaled that an attempt would be made to initiate talks with the Taiwan government under Pres-



na. A poll published this week in Taiwan showed that just 13 showing no obvious enthusiasm for participation in talks about per cent of the population were rcunification. Beset by domesfavour, 53 per cent were haptic crises, the Taiwanese leader sees little advantage in engag-ing in a risky bout of diploma-

py with the status quo. Nevertheless, China is in the throes of reunification celecy when public opinion remains brations and has hinted that the heavily against a return to Chihandover might be an appro-

ogue on this matter.

Although China has made it clear that it will not tolerate what it regards as Taiwan "separatist" activity in Hong Kong, it has not insisted on the closure of Taiwan's semi-official government offices. Pro-Taiwan organisa-

treat, lowering their profile and, in some cases, sending leading members to live in Taiwan. The government has closed down the ist remaining pro-Taiwan settlement and the once influential Taiwan-backed trade unions are now barely visible.

that it will prevent Hong Kong retaining its role as a transit point between Taiwan and the mainland. In January, a tentative start was made in establishing direct shipping links but direct air routes and most cargo transfers remain banned. The largest

group of overseas visitors using Hong Kong's airport come from Taiwan, and many Taiwan investors operating in China do so from a Hong Kong base. The establishment of direct ties between China and Taiwan would have a serious impact on the Hong Kong economy.

Border patrol: Pte Chris Richmond of

regiment surveying the Chinese city of Shenzhen from the Crest Hill lookout

Jason Reed

the Scottish Biackwatch

in Hong Kong Photograph: Reuters/

New order seeks face-saving way to reward allies

tion system, to one side, the Hong Kong members of China's Preparatory Committee, have focused their sights on the pressing matter of finding a system to replace the royal honours, writes Stephen Vines.

The colony's notables have long worried about the disappearance of the colonial honours system and alerted the Chinese leadership to the dangers of trying to run Hong Kong without finding a way of giving some kind of title to those who believe they have earned it for services rendered.

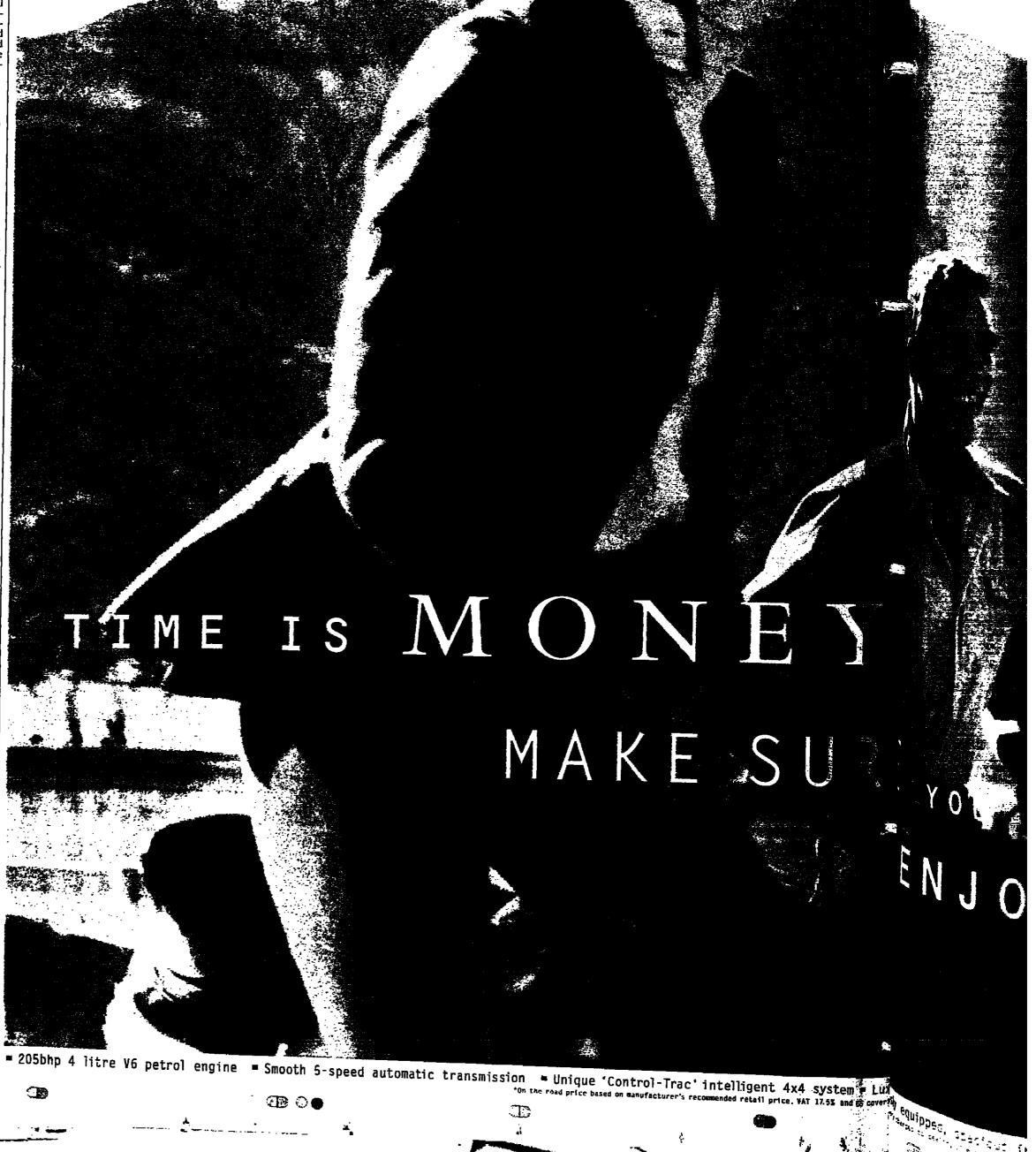
The outgoing colonial regime published its last Queen's Birthday honours list last week, shoveling through a record 202 worthies, including practically everyone who has personally assisted the Governor from his housekeeper to the two "minders", Martin Dinham and Edward Llewelynn, brought from London as his personal advisers.

British honours, once fervently sought in Hong Kong, have become something of a two-edged sword. Sir Ti Liang Yang, the former Chief Justice, who tried to become Hong Kong's first Chief Executive,

Having put lesser matters, such as the establishment of an elec-was told that this was not really on, although he could de-scribe himself as plain mister if he so desired. However, his wife is still known as Lady Barbara.

In a society obsessed by "min", or face, the acquisition of honours is highly regarded. Recipients of honorary doctorates get their companies to take out full-page advertisements in newspapers, filled with congratulatory messages. Seekers of knighthoods and lesser honours were known to besiege Government House with inquiries about how much they needed to give to charity before an honour would be bestowed. Thus it is hardly surprising that the new order is being called upon to find a way of giving min to its new found allies.

Meanwhile, even some of Hong Kong's most outspoken anti-colonialists are loath to remove their royally bestowed titles. Lo Tak-shing, a prominent pro-Peking adviser and publisher of a now defunct magazine which carried anti-British articles, reacted angrily to suggestions that he might like to stop using his Commander of the British Empire (CBE) title. "I've earned it and I see no rea-



ر المن الدما



Khmer Rouge rivals claim to hold Pol Pot

Phnom Penh

Pol Pot, reviled leader of the splintering Khmer Rouge guerrilla movement in Cambodia, has surrendered to renegades who forced him to flee his remote jungle stronghold last week, according to a report on the group's clandestine radio.

General Nhek Bunchhay, deputy army chief of staff, said the guerrillas planned to hold Pol Pot to be judged by an in-grantional tribunal for his role in the genocidal regime he led hetween 1975 and 1979 which caused the deaths of two million Cambodians. Earlier, a broadcast by Khmer Rouge clandes-tine radio claimed that Pol Pot had "confessed". It was not immediately clear to what.

Amid intense speculation in recent days over his whereabouts, the radio broadcast said Pol Pot's surrender was "the begioning of a new era in Cambodian history", and that a "dark cloud had now disappeared from above the country".

Government forces have pledged to stand Pol Pol, 69, be-



Pol Pot: Splinter group says he has confessed

fore an international war crimes tribunal for crimes against humanity. There has been no independent confirmation of the surrender and officials in the Cambodian capital Phnom Penh greeted the report with scepticism. "We must be careful about this," said Hun Sen. one of the country's two vying prime ministers. "This is not normal. Everything is still a mysport were true, he said, Pol Put should be handed over to the authorities for trial. The claimed surrender is the

latest in a series of uncon-

firmed events that have sparked widespread rumour and ex-citement about the possibility of the world seeing one of the 20th century's most revited despots, who has remained hidden from international scrutiny for nearly 20 years. "If this is true, then it is the very best thing that has happened for Cambodia, and good for the rest of the world also," said Serai Kosal, chief security adviser to Prince Norodom Ranariddh, the country's other Co-Premier. Last week, Prince Ranariddh said Pol Pot and a small group of loyalist had fled the remote Anlong Veng jungle stronghold after an unpopular internal purge of the movement turned most of his

supporters against him. Since the horrors of his brutal Khmer Rouge regime be-tween 1975 and 1979, in which millions of Cambodians were executed, died of starvation or mistreatment. Pol Pot's name

has become synonymous with evil and brutal dictatorship. He has been variously described as "Asia's Hitler", a "genocidal maniac" and a "moon-faced monster".

But as the curtain finally draws on Pol Pot, and the Khmer Rouge he has led for a quarter of a century, "Brother Number One" remains shrouded in uncertainty and rumour.

Secretive to the point of obsession, Pol Pot, a teacherturned-tyrant whose real name is believed to be Saloth Sar, has hidden himself from the outside world. A single photograph of him exists from the 1980s and his whereabouts and health have been the subject of widespread speculation over the years. Only a year ago, he was rumoured to be dead. Last week, he was reported

to be alive and well, but battling for his survival against breakaway Khmer Rouge dissidents, embittered at a bloody purge in which Pol Pot is reported to have ordered the execution of Son Sen, his aged defence chief, and the arrest of other top Khmer Rouge figures.



Heading home: A boy encounters government forces tightening security in Phnom Penh

Armies drill for the next civil war

and scores of tense soldiers fingering the well-oiled triggers of their rifles, "Tigers' Den" stretches threateningly across the northern suburbs of Cambodia's explosive capital. writes Matthew Chance in Phnom Penh.

Inside the perimeter fences. Hun Sen, the country's powerful "second" prime minister has dug in amid tight security. In his own bunker across the

city, Prince Norodom Ranariddh, co-prime minister and Hun Sen's avowed rival, sur- the hated Khmer Rouge, an rounds himself with fewer guntoting bodyguards.

newed civil war. After clashes on Tuesday

night between the two prime ministerial bodyguard units, troops from rival army factions have been deployed on the streets of the capital, Phnom Penh, in anticipation of further violence.

Cambodia's two vying leaders, divided over most issues, are locked in a dangerous stand-off over plans to induct defecting Khmer Rouge guerrillas into the government army and allow the reviled leaders of the movement, with the exception of

Pol Pot, back into politics. Hun Sen has opposed this, and has delivered an angry was offered a co-premiership. ultimatum to Prince Ranariddh. warning him that he must choose between staying in power and embracing the Khmer Rouge.

A former Khmer Rouge commander who collaborated with Vietnamese forces to oust the genocidal movement in only one prime minister can as-1979, Hun Sen remains a bête

Ringed by a wall of barbed wire noire to members of the group. frequently lambasted on clandestine guerrilla radio as a "Hanoi puppet" or a "piece of

excrement.

Understandably, he is uncomfortable with the prospect of joining hands with his former Khmer Rouge colleagues.

Moreover, an influx of heavily-armed, well-trained fighters into army ranks loval to Prince Ranariddh would weaken Hun Sen's hitherto unchallenged military superiority. "It's is ironic that the fall of

event which should be a uniting factor for the country, is prov-Both men are drilling their ing to be a divisive one. We are troops and priming their tanks now in an extremely dangerous as the country edges towards re- time in Cambodia," said Ker Munthit, a veteran Phnom Penh-based analysi.

The country is sliding in the direction of civil war and any upset in the fragile balance of power might be all that is needed to push it over the brink."

Since 1993 elections, in which Prince Ranariddh's Funcinpec political party was returned to power, Cambodia has been in political limbo. Hun Sen, wielding considerable military muscle, has threatened to abandon the 1991 UN peace deal and revert -along with the Khmer Rouge - to civil war.

To appease his Cambodian But the uneasy coalition has been dogged by the intense rivalry between the two leaders.

In recent months, tension has fuelled political violence as both men jostle for advantage in the run-up to general elections next year, after which

Baptists boycott Disney for being 'gay-friendly'

The Southern Baptist Convention, the United States' largest Protestant denomination, yesterday launched a boycott against the Walt Disney Co because of what it said were Disney's "gay-friendly" policies.

An overwhelming majority of delegates to the Southern

Baptists' annual meeting approved a resolution calling on its 15.7 million members to boycott Disney and all its subsidiaries, including ABC television. Disney has drawn the anger of conservative religious groups because it offers health benefits to the partners of its homosexual employees, and has allowed "Gay Days", organised by gay rights groups, at its theme parks.

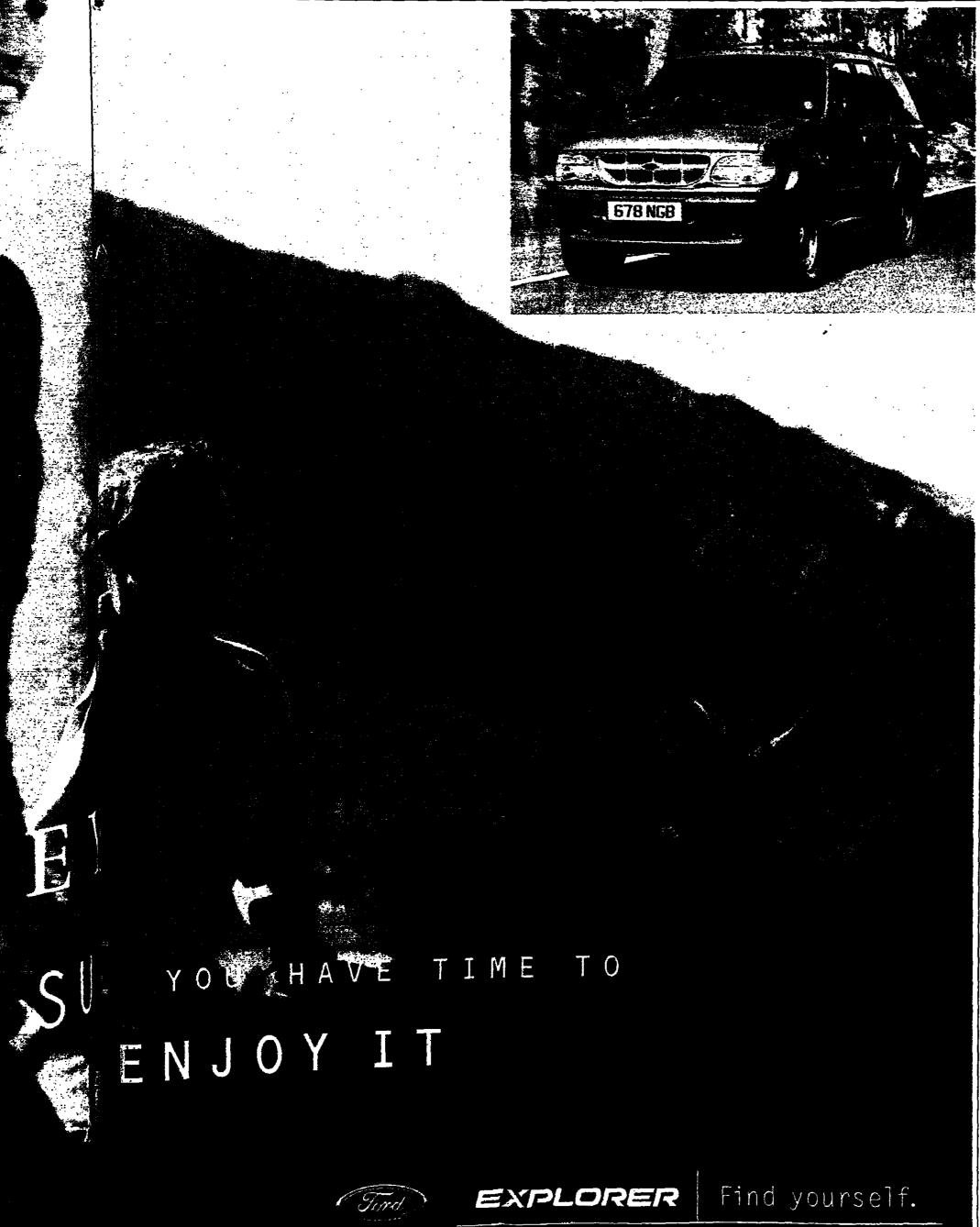
Bribe row sparks Belgian threat

Stefaan De Clerck, the Belgian Justice Minister, threatened a diplomatic incident with France in the row over bribes alleged to have been paid by Dassault, the French aerospace firm. A Liège court issued an international arrest warrant for Serge Dassault, the company head, in May last year, and justice authorities have been trying since then to persuade their French counterparts to co-operate in the investigations. The warrant was withdrawn on Friday, but French authorities still refused to release 11 key documents on the grounds of national security. "This has gone on long enough," Mr De Clerck told parliament. "The French ... must say yes or no to our demand. If it is no it will ... merit an incident of the utmost importance." Reuters - Brussels

Stolen Klee comes home

An early painting by the Swiss artist Paul Klee, stolen from the Phillips Collection in Washington in 1963, is back on display after being returned by a retired Boston businessman. Edward Puhl said he bought the picture, The Little Regutta, at a country fair a few years after the theft for less than \$2,000 (£1,250). The picture's estimated value today is in the "low to mid six figures". According to the gallery, no money changed hands for its return, although Mr Puhl stands to receive a healthy tax rebate.

Mary Dejevsky - Washington



usly equipped, spacious interior = £26,040 on the road. For more details call 0345 434 434 or visit www.ford.co.uk

Trony charges to dealer, 12 months road fund licence and estimated cost of number plates.

Dame Isabel Graham **Bryce**

It was for her work on the Ox- which she had served briefly beford Regional Hospital Board (1963-72) and also for her chair- a team investigating the work of manship of the National Nursing Staff Committee (1967-75) that Isabel Graham Bryce was, in 1968, appointed DBE. In her long working life, she set her-self goals which were beyond mere personal ambition: she took an intense and genuine interest in the welfare of others, high and low, and she applied a systematic approach - derived, no doubt, from her early scientific training - to achieve what she saw as right and fitting.

She was born in 1902, the fourth of five children, in Belfast, where her father, James Lorrain Smith, was a professor of pathology. She was only two years old when the family moved - first to Manchester and then to Edinburgh, where her father became Dean of the Medical Faculty. Her father's chairmanship of the English Association meant that his family met many of the writers of the day - Yeats and Masefield for instance - when they came to lecture and to read.

Her mother was much involved in good works; she set the example of community work which her four daughters followed. However, when Isabel went to her first job after graduating MA from Edinburgh University, she followed in the footsteps of her father, who had been on a Home Office committee investigating humidity and ventilation in cotton weaving sheds: her project was to study the effects of humidity in shoe factories in Leicester. She took a year off to do psy-

chological research in Cambridge under Sir Frederick Bartlett, and in 1928 became a factory inspector – an unusual iob for a woman in those days and went to work first in London then in Manchester. In later years she would recall the lip-reading skills of the cotton spinners and how the inspectors had to be careful of what they said, even in the deafening noise of the factories.

In 1934 she left her work to marry Alexander Graham Bryce, a thoracic surgeon in Manchester. Preparations for war in 1938 saw her in the Women's Voluntary Service and in charge of evacuation schemes. When she herself was evacuated with her two sons to Toronto in 1940 and managed to find work, in Canada, then in the United tall and stately presence whose States. But soon, through contacts dating from Cambridge days, she was taken on to do scientific research into pilot fatigue in Harvard University.

At the end of the war she returned to Manchester, a member of the National Council of Women and of the Federation of University Women, but also on the board of the Manchester Children's Hospital on



Graham Bryce: stately

fore going to Canada. She led nurses at the Children's Hospital, with the result that when the National Association of Hospital Management Committees was formed she was a Manchester representative and later a member of the General Nursing Council. Parallel with this she was a magistrate on the senior and juvenile courts.

A move to Sussex when her husband retired in 1955 meant that commuting to London was easier. Fellow commuters were used as information sources and sounding boards. Through one of them, Lord Beeching, she was later invited to join the board of British Transport Hotels as a non-executive director, a post she held for 16 years; her main preoccupation was the working and living conditions of the staff.

Something different, but not out of character, was her five years with the new Independent Television Authority. Her concera for people and feel for efficiency together with her lively awareness of current affairs led to her working with great enthusiasm with such a group, planning and monitoring ogrammes and getting the feedback of public reaction.

Concurrently, and having moved in the meantime to Berkshire, she became in 1963 Chairman of the Oxford Regional Hospital Board. The region was a large one, embracing not only Oxfordshire but also Buckinghamshire, west Berkshire, parts of Wiltshire and Gloucestershire and Northamptonshire; it included Grendon Underwood and Stoke Mandeville. Her nine years in the position - three periods of office - were the high point of her ca-reer: she used all her abilities, drive and, above all, her efficient handling of committees and government officials (including nine ministers), to make this large region an outstanding one. During a complete reorgan-

isation of the NHS, she chaired the National Staff Committee co-ordinating personnel changes through to 1975. She held no more official positions after 1978 but continued to be involved in voluntary organisations such as the League of Friends of the Radcliffe Infirmary, the Zonta International Women's Organisation and the Motor

Neurone Disease Association. searching eyes remained clear and blue, reflecting her keen mind, even as she approached her 95th year.

Isabel Lorrain Smith, public ser vant: born Belfast 30 April 1902; Investigator. Industrial Fatigue Research Board 1926-27: HM Inspector of Factories 1928-34; Centre Organiser, WVS, Manchester 1938-39; Director of Organisation, Ontario Division, Canadian 1115 1941-42: Teclinical Adviser, American WVS 1942-43: Research Fellow, Fatigue Laboratory, Harvard University 1943-44; Vice-President, Princess Christian College, Manchester 1953-97; Chairman, Oxford Regional Hospital Board 1963-72: Chairman. National Nursing Staff Committee 1907-75; DBE 1968; Chairman, National Staff Committee 1969-75: director, British Transport Hotels 1962-79, consultant 1979-81; married 1934 Alexander Graham Bryce (died 1968; two sons): died Oxford 29 April 1997.



James Lee Byars

This is a Call from the Ghost of *lames Lee Byars* was the title of a 1969 performance by the eponymous artist. Byars anticipated his death throughout his career, death being one magnetic pole of his ocurre, the other perfection.

Byars set up a "Death Lot-tery" in the Seventies to mark his own death in advance, in 1979 he invited Salvador Dali to Hollywood in order to film his death (Dali refused) and he used death, ghosts and spirits in the titles of his work. His other favoured term was "perfect" and in 1984 he performed The Perfect Death, walking a large circle whilst a Tibetan monk blew a traditional horn. Byars would have considered his real death to be perfect; he expired in the Anglo-American Hospital in Cairo, a venue conveying the exotic, old-fashioned, inherently romantic flavour of his existence. It also has a synchronistic frieson; in 1989 he went to Cairo to personify the pseudonym "Johnny" for "Egyptian Secrets, or Johnny Investigates the Afterlife" published as an article by the magazine Artforum in May of that year.

In Byars's art, the simplest objects contained metaphysical implications, which often depended upon the neutral, reverential space of the art world or their titles to reveal their hidden meaning. Byars used fragile "weak" materials, the ences on Byars as much as the ory Department of the Euro-

ephemeral and transient, including thoughts, questions and kisses. However, like many such artists, as he grew older his concepts became embodied by increasingly solid forms until they looked suspiciously like traditional sculpture. This is a familiar trajectory, often subtly driven by market forces, but Byars was lucky enough to have sufficient patrons to hold out for a long time.

Patrons were a typically anachronistic element of his work, a chain of hosts rewarded with enigmatic traces, a folded paper, a word on a petal. This Byars style was apparent early - he traded toy guns for silk socks with classmates. His first patron was a Detroit Greek for whom he created a garden which existed for two weeks only and included tons of white sand and a goat with a golden chain - the neighbours were so impressed that they offered the 25year-old Byars a one-year travel grant. As a result, from 1958 until 1967 Byars lived in Japan, studying traditional crafts and creating his first performances, which involved outsize folded papers. Some of these he installed in the emergency stair-well of the Museum of Modern Art in New York for a few hours, including the 1 x 200-Foot Paper which was later bought by the museum.

Zen and Noh were influ-

conceptual practices of the Sixties. His trademark gold or black suits (courtesy of his Asian tailor Mr North South) with top hat and veil or blind-fold, were part hippy fantasia, part Oriental ceremony. His sense of theatre was paramount, whether having a Catholic nun in full habit unfold A 1,000-Foot Chinese Paper or being ferried by gondola across the Grand Canal in Venice in gold suit and

blindfold. Byars's actions were varied but always a blend of poetic and dramatic; closing a stretch of Fifth Avenue to be driven past the Guggenheim in a taxi at 100mph, telephoning Alain Robbe-Grillet to exchange a pre-arranged 30-second silence, getting members of the Metropolitan Museum to gild the kerb in front of the museum; or creating dresses for 500 people, with Shere Hite leading their

Byars was always interested in philosophy, specifically questions, and travelled to Oxford in the Sixties to discover what 'questions" existed in the Faculty of Philosophy. He set up the World Question Center, which was featured in a live broadcast on Belgian television in 1969. where students phoned famous intellectuals to discover what questions they were asking themselves. Byars was even granted residency by the Thepean Organisation for Nuclear Research in Geneva. Despite an attempt to be

come "Artist of the Pentagon"

a move which led to accusations

that his mysterious means of financial support came from the CIA, Byars moved to Europe in 1972. In Germany and Venice his aesthetic met its ideal visual context: he could stand on the Friedericianum pediment at Documenta 5; and display The Holy Ghost, a gigantic sheet, in the Piazza San Marco. Particularly notable was The Play of Death (1976) sponsored by Dr Reiner Speck, who reserved the 13 first-floor rooms of the Domhotel, Cologne, where at 12am on a particular date all the shutters were simultaneously thrown open by Byars and 12 doctors dressed in black. In 1982 he visited Furka Pass in Switzerland, open for only 100 days a year, and in gold suit and top hat placed a drop of black perfume on a boulder.

In 1978 he exhibited a huge marble slab engraved with a mi-nuscule text: "I Am Imaginary". Whether he was or wasn't. James Lee Byars created a resonant, lifelong master-piece from such ambiguity. Adrian Dannatt

(two stepdaughters): died Cairo

James Lee Byars, artist: born Detroit. Michigan 10 April 1932; married Gwendolyn F. Dunaway

Edmond Leburton

Edmond Leburton, Prime Minister of Belgium from January 1973 to January 1974, was the last native French speaker and also the last member of the Socialist Party to hold that office. His fall marked the polarisation of Belgian politics into their regional components, a process which proved fatal to his party.

Leburton was a true Walloon from Waremme, a small town west of Liège. He was educated at the University of Liège. During the Second World War he joined one of the paramilitary resistance units, the Armée Secrète. Wallonia was traditionally a socialist area, and Leburton joined the party. He was elected in 1946 to the House of Representatives, of which he remained a member until 1981 (becoming speaker in 1977-79). Before that he had been a controller of labour and a chef de cabinet at the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare.

He was a specialist in welfare questions and, as Minister of Public Health (1954-58) in Achille Van Acker's Socialist government, and of Social Security (1961-65), he laid the foundations of the Belgian medical insurance system, which was the cornerstone of a generous welfare state.

The Socialists were forced into a coalition with the Roman Catholic Christian Socialists, and Leburton became a vicepremier in government, from 1969 until 1971. When the coalition government led by the Catholic Socialist Gaston Eyskens resigned in November 1972 over the Dutch/French linguistic disputes besetting the country, Leburton, who had become co-chairman of the Socialist Party the previous year, was approached by King Baudouin to form a new administration.

After protracted negotiations with other party leaders, he was able to present his gov-ernment on 25 January 1973. It was a broad coalition drawn from the Christian Socialists, the Socialists, and the Liberals. Then aged 58, Leburton was the first Socialist prime minister since the fall of Van Acker in

1958. He was also to be the last. From the start his government was beset by scandals. Allegations of corruption over telephone contracts for the state post office led to the resignation of a secretary of state, and the long drawn-out affair, with its commission of inquiry, eventually claimed another minister. A second, more significant, scandal, was the Ibramco affair. This arose out of an agreement between the Belgian Government and the National Iranian Oil Company to set up an oil refinery in the socialist heartlands near Liège. Too many decisions about the pro-ject had been made during the period of the caretaker administration before Leburton had taken office, and too many members of the Socialist Party had tentatively been approached to sit on the board of lbramco, the jointly held company which was to exploit the refinery.

Leburton's response was to delay the signing of the contract. As a consequence the Iranians pulled out. He reshuffled his government in October, but by January 1974 he could no longer keep the coalition to-gether. Several of his fellow Socialists resigned, and, even before the Iranians pulled out, the Christian Socialists and the Liberals had indicated their opposition to the scheme. Leurton resigned on 19 January.

His departure accelerated the pace of Belgian political life.
The elections held two months later were a watershed, as the results showed a growing polarisation of politics along linguistic lines: most Christian Socialist representatives were now Dutch speakers, and most Socialists were French speakers. With the country moving inexorably towards a federal state of great complexity, the historic Socialist Party of Wallonia dwindled in size and influence and, in Liège itself, was absorbed by further scandals (including the murder of André Cooks, Leburton's successor as co-chairman of his party).

Leburton was above these things. His political base had heen Waremme, whose bourgmestre, or mayor, he remained from 1947 to 1987. He ensured that the town was linked up to the new motorway. He was greatly respected, and he was known in Waremme as the "Big White Chief", not least because of his shock of white hair. John Rogister

Edmond Jules Isidore Leburton; politician; born Waremme, Belgium 18 April 1915; Mayor of Waremme 1947-87; Prime Minister of Beleium 1973-74; married 1947 Charolotte Joniaux (two sons);

Rolf Ericson

There are three European trumpeters who ranked with the classic great Americans - the Scot Jimmy Deuchar, the Yugoslav Dusko Goykovich and the Swede Rolf Ericson, All could easily make their way in the home of jazz, and indeed Ericson did from the time he

emigrated to New York in 1947. Drawn to jazz at the age of 11 when he heard Louis Armstrong play in Stockholm, Ericson turned professional in 1938 and during the Forties recorded with the eminent singers Valaida (also a trumpeter) and Alice Babs. Once in America Erieson was soon called on to play in the sections of the top name bands, including those of Stan Kenton, Charlie Barnet and Woody Herman. He also had radio work with Benny Carter and played with Wardell Gray, Elliot Lawrence and Charlie Ventura. By the time he returned to

Sweden in 1950 he was established as an accomplished soloist and he toured in Scandinavia with Charlie Parker that year, as well as forming his own band with the saxophonists Arne Domnerus and Lars Gullin. "It was a good group. and we had a ball, but the interest in jazz in Sweden was too limited, and I missed the United States." After a year he returned there. "It may be a rat race, but

it's where it's happening." Although he worked in small groups with the saxophonists Dexter Gordon and Harold Land, Ericson had to re-enter the sections of the big bands to make his living. He played with those of Charlie Spivak, Harry James, Les Brown, Tommy and Jimmy Dorsey and with Woods Herman. He also put together a quintet which included the notable bassist Scott LaFaro, but it wasn't heard outside the Los Angeles area.

Blaise Pascal, mathematician and

Ericson returned to tour in Sweden with his own American musicians in 1956. It was a fine group which included the baritone player Cecil Payne, the drummer Art Taylor and the pianist Duke Jordan, but it fell apart due to complications with the personnel. After a short time with Stan

Kenton, in 1959 he joined the trumpeter Maynard Ferguson's lively big band for a year. When in 1961 the drummer Buddy Rich was invited by President John F. Kennedy to take a sextet on a tour of the Far East for the State Department, he chose Erieson on trumpet. At the end of the trip the hand recorded in New York.

Returning home again in 1962 Ericson played with a rhythm section at the Golden or when I can pay you back, Circle, a Stockholm night-club, also working with the American band and work it off," said tenorist Brew Moore in Copenhagen, where Moore lived, ton's band on 18 April 1963 and

Ward: 11 June 1997

A woman who had cohabited

with her husband for 25 years

after their divorce in 1968, and

who had been granted mainte-

nance and other financial

provision in the divorce pro-

ceedings, was entitled on their

subsequent separation to fur-

ther provision to take account

of their improved financial cir-

cumstances since the divorce.

The Court of Appeal allowed

the appellant's appeal against

Mr Justice Holman's refusal to

set aside a lump sum order or

make a property adjustment

Mr and Mrs Hill had married

in 1962. They were divorced in

1968, and Mr Hill was ordered

to pay Mrs Hill £6 per week

maintenance, £3 per week for

each of the two children, and

order in divorce proceedings.

"Rolf is one of the best trumpet players I've worked with," said Moore, "and I've worked with a lot of them. He's trying to do his own things and he doesn't copy anybody.'

"I like to be part of the whole thing in the States," Ericson said at the time. "There are a lot of good jazz musicians in Europe, but they don't get together like they do in New York.

Back in New York, he played with Benny Goodman and Gerry Mulligan and joined Charlie Mingus's 10-piece band from 1962 to 1963. In the meantime his girlfriend became pregnant. Ericson had no money and approached Duke Ellington for a loan. "How much do you want?" asked Ellington, opening his wallet. "I don't know how said Erieson. "Come into my Ellington. He joined Elling-

stayed for two years, concur-studios before returning yet rently working as the trumpeter in Rod Levitt's distinguished octet in New York The pay in the Ellington hand was low ("But you get the chance to play with me, Sweet-

ie," Duke used to wheedle). On one occasion the trumpeter Leo Ball had just come out of customs at Amsterdam airport when he saw Ericson, an old friend of his, talking to someone outside. He rushed down the stairs and threw his arms round him. The other man van-ished swiftly. "Leo, I love you," said Ericson, "But I'm not glad to see you right now. I've been trying for a year to get next to Duke Ellington to ask him for a raise. I finally had him cornered, and because of you he got away!"

From 1965 to 1970 Ericson worked in the studios as a freelance musician in radio, television and in the Hollywood film again to Sweden where he was able to form his own big band for a while. Staying in Berlin for most of the Eighties, he made return visits to the States before settling in Los Angeles.

died Waremme 15 June 1997.

His life was disrupted when his German wife Evelyn, an accomplished vocalist, returned home to the States from a tour of Europe in the early Nineties. The American immigration authorities discovered that she didn't have citizenship and she was refused permission to reenter the country. Ericson had no alternative but to sell up everything he owned and follow her back to Europe. They lived in Stockholm, where Ericson's health eventually deteriorated.

Steve Voce

Rolf Ericson, trumpeter and bandleader: born Stockholm 29 August 1922; married; died

DEATHS

FIGGESS: Alette (nee Idenburg), peacefulb, on 18 June, at Sobell House, Oxford, aged 71, Dearly lwed mother of Sandra and Mickey, grand-mother of Alex, Nima and Charle, Funeral for family and friends at Bucknell Family flowers only. Any donations to Sir Michael Subell House. Old Road, Headington. Oxford OX3 7LL.

HASAN: Elizabeth Louise Morrant. passed away peacefully at home in the arms of her husband Sonny and in the atms of her his-band Sonny and in the presence of her cousin Hilary, on 13 June 1907. Li2's battle against her illnes was fought with dignity and courage. She will be deeply missed by lamily and triends Funeral Service at St Andrew's Pareh Church, Windermere Read, Muswell Hill, on Theoday 24 June at noon, followed by a cremation at St Marylebone Crematerium for family members only. torium for family members only. Family flowers only. Donations to Cancer Research on to the Lym-phoma and Leukaemia Unite o Tim Jackson, PPW3. University College Hospital, Gratton Way, London WCIE oAU.

MORRISON: On 13 June, peacefully, after a long diness, at Westerham

Marriages & Deaths

Births,

Place Residential Home, Kent, ages 59, Muriel Morrison, loving wife of the late James Morrison, of Stub hington, Hampshire, and mother of John, Funeral service, 11.30am, Mon-day 23 June, at St Edmund's Church Crofton, followed by interment at Crofton Cemetery. Flowers may be sent to Churcher & Tribbeck, 3 Stoke Road, Gosport PO12 H.T.

Amounterweats for Gazetic BIRTHS, MAR-RIAGES & DEATHS (Births, Adoptions, Marriages, Deaths, Memorial services, Wed-ding malversaries, in Wessertan) should be sent in writing to the Gazetic Editor, The In-dependent, I Canada Square, Canary Wharf, Loudon E14 50L telephoned to 9172-293 2012 or fassed to 9171-293 2010, and are charged at 65.50 a line i NAT extra). OTHER Gazetic amounterments (notices, functions, Forth-coming marriages, Marriages) must be sub-mitted in writing (or fasted) and are charged at £10 a line, VAT extra. They should be ac-companied by a dayting telephone sumber.

ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS
The Prince of Wakes, Parron, Live Music Now, attends a concert to commenterate the Dish Ammericant of the soft me at the Barbiam Centra. Lond in Fig. and attends a concert to commenterate the Pitth and responsed the death of Mend, bothin and to support the Bedeaten Library Development Campagn of the Stellandar Development Campagn of the Stellandar Thearts. Octored The Duke and The Dockers of Glocoester con the Royal Heghland Show, at the Royal Heghland Centre, ingliston, Edinburgh, The Duke of Kent visits the Royalar Commences Board, Westbury, opens the Totalford on Aton Youth and Communay Centre Bradlord on-Avan, Wiltshire; and visus Cloud-House, East Knode, Wiltshire, Princess ga attends a reception to launch

Changing of the Guard Changing of the Chair Mounted Reg-men mounts the Queen's Life Guard at Horse Guards. Ham: Is Buttalion the Rural Remnent of Wales mounts the Onacu's Guard at Buckingham Palace. H. Mam, hand provaled by the Cold-stream Guards.

Birthdays Mr Robert Ainsworth MP. a Lord

Commissioner, 45: Sir Michael Alexander, former UK Permanen Representative, Nato. 61: Str Robin Brook, businessman and admini-trator, 69: Dr Neil Chalmers, Di-rector, Natural History Museum, 55: Sir Terence Clark, diplomat, 63: The Right Rev John Dennis, former Bishop of St Edmundsbury and Ip-wich, to: Miss Ena Evans, former Headmistress, King Edward VI High School, Birmingham, 59: The Right Rey John Hind, Bishop of Gibrahar in Europe, 52: M Louis Jourdan, actor, 78; Mr Bryan Kneale, sculptor, 67: Rear-Admiral Sir Morgan Morgan-Giles, former MP 83: Brigadier Eileen Nolan, former Director, WRAC, T; Mr Mike O'Brien MP. Parliamentary Under-Secretary. Home Office, 43; Sir Raymond Powell, tormer MP, 6% Sir Francis Purchas, a former Lord Justice of Appeal, 78; Mr Saiman Rushdie, writer, 50t Sir John Sheil, judge of the High Court of Northern Ireland, 59; Sit Alfred Shepperd, former chairman and chief executive. Wellcome Foundation, 72: Mr David Somerset.

Antony Sutch, Headmister, Downside School, 47; Miss Kathleen Turner, actress, 43; Mr Rory Underwood, rugby player, 34, Mr Ed-mand Vestey, former chairman, Blue

Star Line, 65.

Fellow and Financial Adviser,

Peterhouse, Cambridge, 67: Dom

Anniversaries Births: James VI. King of Scotland James I, King of England, 1566;

philosopher, 1623; Douglas, first Earl Haig, soldier, 1861; Bessie Wallis Warfield, Duchess of Windsor, 1806. Deaths: Matthew Merian the Ekler, engraver and bookseller, 165th Sir James Matthew Barne, writer and

playwright, 1937; Sir William Gerald Golding, novelist and Nobel prizewinner, 1903; Vivian Ellis, songwriter and composer, 1996, On this day: King Louis XI of France created a (private) Royal Mail service. 1464; an Act of Parliament was passed founding the Metropolitan Police, 1829; all German titles and names were renounced by the British royal family, who adopted the name Windsor, 1917: Kuwait became independent, 1961 Today is the Feast Day of St Bruno-Boniface, St Deodatus or Die. Saints Gervase and Protase, St Juliana Falcemeri, St Odo of Cambrai and St Romuald.

Lectures

National Gallery: Jacquebne Lewis, "Baptists (iii): Giovanni di Paulo, Scenes from the Life of Saint John the

Victoria and Albert Museum: Amanda Fielding, "Designing and Making Jewellery, 1947 Onwards", 2.30pm. Tate Gallery: Clement Page, "Art Brut: marginality and the return of the 'other' ". Ipm.

a sum of £75; and to transfer to her ownership of a Mini car British Museum: Paul Craddock, in full settlement of any claims "Curinthian Bronze: black gold of the the petitioner may have in realchemists", 1.15pm. spect of the matrimonial home National Portrait Gallery: Jenny ... under section 17. Married Ramkalwon, Portraiture and Adornment in the 19th and 20th Women's Property Act 1882".

Wife could apply for fresh financial order Hill v Hill; Court of Appeal (Lord LAW REPORT Woolf, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Millett and Lord Justice

19 June 1997

Shortly after the decree absolute the parties had resumed cohabitation, but had separated again in 1994. Over that period their financial position had improved. Mrs Hill subsequently applied by notice issued in the 1968 divorce proceedings for a variation of the original

periodical payments order, a property adjustment order, and a lump sum order or, if a lump sum order had originally been made, a re-hearing. Ashley Ailes (Bernard Chill & Axtell, Estaleigh) for the appellant: Edward Ravdell (Lampon Bassitt,

Southangton) for the respondent. Lord Justice Ward said that Mrs Hill's claim should be viewed as one based upon the decree of divorce but put in abeyance during the subse-

quent cohabitation, rather than as one based upon cohabitation. A distinction could not be drawn in principle between premarital cohabitation and post-divorce cohabitation.

garded in any way as having the equivalent right of a wife or a former wife, there was another important aspect of policy to hear in mind. That was the policy of encouraging reconciliation wherever possible. It was universally recognised that it was better for children

view that as a matter of policy

the cohabitee should not be re-

to grow up cared for by parents who were together than by parents who were separated. As a result of the reconciliation in the present case, the children had been given the stability of a settled home. To treat cohabitation with her former husband as cohabitation with a stranger was to distort the reality of their relationship.

The test for deciding whether or not to grant leave to Mrs Hill to make her property adjustment application was essentially holding the balance of justice between the parties. She would suffer undoubted hardship if the court did not Whilst fully supporting the intervene; he had the means to

redress it. The balance tipped in favour of the appellant. The judge had erred in principle in construing the order of

15 January 1969 as a disposal of the prayer of the petition for a lump sum order. He had therefore erred in law in concluding that the court was without jurisdiction to entertain that claim. No policy consideration precluded it.

As for the application for leave to apply for a property adjustment order, the judge had erred in finding that there had been a comprehensive property settlement at the time of the divorce which expressly took into account any interest which Mrs Hill might have had in the then available property. That left the court free to exercise its own discretion.

The appeal would therefore be allowed. The court did have jurisdiction to entertain the appellant's claims for a lump sum order and/or for a property adjustment order. The appellant did not need leave to proceed with the former but should have cave to proceed with the latter.

Kate O'Hanlon, Barrister



Mottish choice Mastronom;

Tories must

mite behind

Ken Clarke

After Amsterdam: playing the diversity game

here are many reasons why the instead his consuming ambition has been to create a European structure made such a compelling spectacle. One of the most satisfying is seeing the Conservatives tearing themselves apart over what is fast becoming a non-issue. The Euro-sceptics, if only they realised it, have actually won a number of important arguments; it is thanks in part to them that Tony Blair's position on Europe is now so convincing. Moreover he, and the French electorate, and Theo Waigel (would-be plunderer of the Bundesbank's glittering golden piles) have in their different ways shot the Tory Euro-sceptics' fox. After Amsterdam it is time to filch an old phrase and say we are all Euro-sceptics now. Sceptical, that is, not about the existence or utility of the European Union but about the conceits and assumptions which have guided it in recent years. The European game has moved on, and John Redwood, William Hague and the other nay-sayers have been left hors de combat.

So what, after Amsterdam, is the nature of the game? It starts to look like the re-discovery of diversity, or, to put that another way, the end of Kohlism. The propaganda picture of the German Chancellor published by the Tories during the May election campaign was not just offensive, it was plain wrong. It attributed to Helmut

strong enough to strap the Germans in. The Kohl project was meant to lead not just to economic and monetary union, but also to closer political integration. History will surely say of that project, tinged as it has been with noble aspirations and a desperate desire to kill for ever the conditions that led to the Nazis' rampage through Europe, that it chose an odd means to realise itself; a single currency relying on deflation and mechanical delivery of the same stance on government spending and borrowing. The project, in other words, assumed its end (political co-ordination and convergence) as its means. The French election result exposed the problem, which is why the Paris newspapers are today reporting - after the botched attempt to add a iobs and social element to the fiscal stability pact - that the trans-Rhine relationship has become "fragilisé".

The single currency preoccupation has had other perverse effects - unattended, that is, by Chancellor Kohl himself. Money dominated the agenda at Amsterdam, squeezing out vital questions of how the European Union is to be managed if it is to expand eastwards, as it must. Big decisions were none the less taken. To end border controls (and harmonise immigration policies) is a supreme act of trust in your Kohl a desire to dominate, when neighbours, especially those with long



ONE CANADA SQUARE CANARY WHARF LONDON E145DL TELEPHONE 0171-293 2000 / 0171-345 2000 FAX 0171-298 3405 / 0171-345 2435

and open coasts, such as Italy and Greece, or those with only a handful of external border guards, such as Austria. But it is on such trust that commerce and human exchange flourishes. While Tony Blair properly reflects public opinion in Britain in refusing to extend such trust on Britain's behalf, the difference of view between us and them is stark. But where British reluctance used to look like fear and loathing, now it looks either like prudence or even the sensible articulation of an alternative idea of Europe to that held by the integrationists.

To say that "stalemate" in Amsterdam in fact amounts to the beginning of a new course for Europe would be going too far. Europe faces a period of confusion, however firm the expressed commitments of Bonn and Paris to going ahead with the single currency. From Paris comes the distinct sound of whistling in the dark. Lionel Jospin has returned from Amsterdam virtually empty-handed. He either abandons firm election promises (notably that commitment to ensure Italy is in the first wave of entrants to EMU) or faces further

mans. Over the next months fiscal calculators will be much in use - to determine, for instance, whether a French budget deficit in the current financial year of 3.8 per cent followed by one of 4 per cent plus in 1998 (unless the Jospin government abandons another pledge, not to go ahead with the privatisation of France Télécom) constitutes a "tendency" away from the 3 per cent stipulated by the original Maastricht criteria.

The British government will be sorely tempted to sit out on its island and watch the sport. There is a case for creative negligence. From the foundering of the common currency project might come new thought, new remedies. Kohlism would not survive. Tony Blair ought now to be thinking beyond the British presidency of the EU next year to the German elections and the possible emergence of a new national leader there. What Britain can offer, in the meantime, is a rejection of the fatalism that pervades so much continental thinking about the EU. The failure of the common currency would not necessarily mean the end of the road for monetary integration. It would remain a logical consequence of commercial integration. But above all, the Blair government can offer its success showing the Italians, the French and the Germans that national reforms within a European framework can bruising engagements with the Ger- reduce joblessness, enhance growth

and foster trade on the basis of stable exchange rates. Such success does not come easy: Gordon Brown's problems with the sterling exchange rate are probably only just beginning. Call it a pro-European version of splendid separateness, or call it sceptical realism after the Amsterdam summit, it starts to look like progress.

A rich turn of phrase

fter you'd heard it, the phrase A instability pact" seemed so fitting and obvious to describe the political coupling of Kenneth Clarke and John Redwood. But some bright spark must have coined it first. Was it a hack or a spin-doctoring MP? By early afternoon it was being recycled by the likes of Michael Howard and had entered the general consciousness, with no one claiming copyright. But advertising agencies think authorship matters. Look at the fuss over "Hello Boys", the Wonderbra slogan – even though, as an alert reader pointed out on this page yesterday, film comedian Mel Brooks got there 17 years ago. If intellectual property rights could be established for phrases, just think who would get rich - and how impoverished our everyday conversation would be.

• LETTERS TO THE EDITOR •

Tories must unite behind Ken Clarke

Sir: John Redwood's support for Ken Clarke affirms in the clearest terms his ability to unite the Conservative Party. Many of us have been crying out for an inclusive not an exclusive approach, and this is what today's [18 June] events show Ken Clarke will genuinely provide.

Principle will not be compromised, indeed it will be enhanced, when strong individuals join together in common sense. Ken opinion will be further strengthened. That broad basis of support will enable him as leader to carry through a radical review of policy and structure. All in the party should now unite around him. Sir BRYAN NICHOLSON Kingswood, Surrey

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Sir: We believe that any attempts by a prospective Tory party leader to stamp their personal views, to the exclusion of others, on the future composition of the Shadow Cabinet is out of tune with Conservative instincts for tolerance and mutual

Kenneth Clarke and John Redwood have combined to offer the Tory party something we all thought it had lost: unity based on inclusiveness. This is Tony Blair's worst nightmare. We strongly urge all Conservative MPs to vote to make this unity a reality and to reroute their party on the path back

ANTHONY FRIEZE President, Oxford Union Society Michaelmas Term 1987 MARCJONES President, Oxford University Conservative Association Michaelmas Term 1985 JESSICA PULAY President, Oxford Union Society Trinity Term 1987

Scottish choice for astronomy

London W11

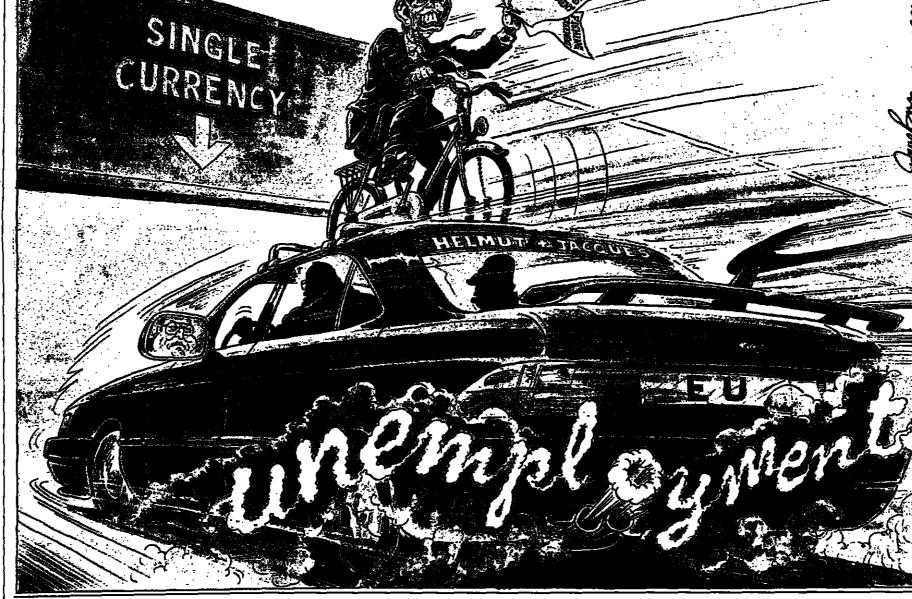
Sir: I write, as chairman of the Ground Based Facilities Committee of the Particle Physics and Astronomy Research Council, to express my agreement with the views put forward by Professor Rowan-Robinson (Letters, 12

I believe that the location of the PPARC Astronomical Technology Centre at the Royal Observatory, Edinburgh is highly desirable. Regrettably this will also lead to the run-down of the Royal Greenwich Observatory at Cambridge, as the possibility of continuing to maintain both facilities is unrealistic.

PPARC would have to close more telescopes and reduce much necessary development on the facilities that we have left. Last February my committee had to reduce the expenditure on the Ground Based Telescope facilities by £7.3m (nearly 10 per cent) over the four-year period from April

1997. This forced the recommendation that UK support for three telescopes (the UK Schmidt, the Carlsberg Meridian telescope and the JKT) should be withdrawn, along with cuts in the development programmes on other telescopes, including the world-class Merlin radio telescope

at Jodrell Bank. To maintain both RGO and ROE at their present levels is not Astronomical Technology Centre in all the suitable areas for drag-



Edinburgh cannot be popular with everyone, but I do urge the minister for science and technology to make this tough decision quickly for the benefit of British astronomy. Professor ALAN WATSON Pro-Vice-Chancellot University of Leeds

Drag-hunting is too expensive

Sir: Paul Beli (letter, 18 June) proposes drag-hunting as an alternative to fox-hunting. There are a number of reasons why this won't happen.

It might be possible for an individual to move from one to the other, but drag-hunting is to foxhunting what power-boat racing is to sailing. One can go fox-hunting or sailing on a comparatively modest budget at the bottom end of both sports (which is where most of us are), but power-boat racing and drag-hunting require a serious outlay of money at the outset for just the basic equipment.

One insurance proposal I received for my horse put draghunting in a higher risk category than "ordinary" hunting, alongside polo. Like most foxhunters, my horse would not be suitable for drag-hunting and I would not sell him to buy a more expensive drag-hunter. Anyway, if hunting is banned his sale value would collapse and I wouldn't be able 10 afford a replacement

It is often blithely said that hunts themselves would "switch". Only one hunt of any type can exist in any given area, and 70 per cent of the country (which includes just about

hunting) is already apportioned to existing drag hunts. Thus in my area the Surrey Union hunt, of which I am a member, could only turn to drag-hunting if the Kent and Surrey Bloodhounds agreed to close down and hand over their territory. Also, the bloodhounds require the same amount of territory as four or five packs of foxhounds, so even if they agreed to disband at least three packs of foxhounds would have to SARAH GODLEY Westcott, Surrey

Nigerian threat to Sierra Leone

Sir: The approval given by Britain, the US, the UN and the Commonwealth to Nigeria's involvement in Sierra Leone is alarming. There might have been a chance of a negotiated settlement until General Abacha saw an opportunity to make political hay at Sierra Leone's expense. His wellmeaning but naive sponsors have sent an arsonist to put out a fire.

How could anyone believe that a dictator who has for the last three years kept his own country's freely elected president, Chief Mosbood Abiola, locked in solitary confinement without trial, has suddenly become a fervent protector of democratic principles? The Nigerian army had tanks on the streets of Lagos on 12 June to suppress any expression of dissent by fellow countrymen on the fourth anniversary of the annulment of their democracy, and yet we are led

to believe that the soldiers in Freetown are there to do precisely Had the free world acted similarly against their new-found

paladin when he and his cohorts stole the will of the Nigerian people in June 1993 then maybe West Africa would have been more stable and more likely to embrace democracy.

No time should be lost in making

all approvals subject to, at the very

least, agreed terms of engagement to protect the civilian population. The Nigerian army has a rather loose way with people's lives and the navy is quite happy to shell indiscriminately from off the coast. TOM ROBBINS Nonon Canes, Staffordshire The writer was personal assistant to Chief Abiola, 1993-95

Tube a key test for Labour

Sir: Resolution of the London Underground's problems will be a test of this government's courage and competence. We seem afraid to speak against this prime example of public squalor vs private affluence. £27m is needed for track maintenance this year; half that is won by individuals in the National Lottery. £1.7bn is required to bring the whole system up to scratch; over £200bn is invested in private cars alone, and £20bn will be spewed out from the flotation of the mutual companies.

celebrate the millennium than to bring our public transport system up to date. We would remember our past ingenuity, provide a real cause for celebration and help to counter the grotesque financial and health costs of private road transport. There is a lot of money washing about. Can we not be enabled to buy bonds in public transport systems which pay a small interest and be redeemable after say a minimum of 10 years? DÁVID S HALPIN Newton Abbot, Devon

Honour the

hero of Arabia

Sir: As a member of the TE

of its value, it would be very

Lawrence Society I was naturally

interested to see that the motor-cycle on which he was killed is for

sale ("£2m price tag on the classic bike that killed a legend", 14

June). Leaving aside the question

That possibility - no, probability

Recently, as you report, an early

regrettable if it left the country.

points up the ambiguous treatment that this extraordinary

and influential man has received

typescript of part of The Seven

Pillars of Wisdom was sold to an

leave the country. Associated

Arab ruler and will, presumably,

items and a further typescript are

destined for a similar fate in the

In 1988, this society asked the

produce a stamp to commemorate

request was refused. It is doubly

trivia that has since found its way

would provide an ideal site for a

It seems that other countries are

better able to recognise than is his

homeland the achievements of the

influential adviser, and powerful

writer who was Lawrence of

depressing to see some of the

Furthermore, the empty

plinth in Trafalgar Square

statue of Lawrence on his

brave and clever soldier.

PETER METCALFE

TE Lawrence Society

on to our envelopes.

motorcycle.

Arabia

Stevenage,

Hertfordshire

then Post Office if it would

Lawrence's centenary. The

from modera Britain.

next few weeks.

Sir: The problem with New Labour's attempt to think the unthinkable is that it always ends up producing things that the last Tory government thought about and found to be overwhelmingly rejected by the voters on 1 May. If the Tories don't understand yet what happened to them at the election, the same is also true for the Labour Party.

The voters rejected concepts of the market and privatisation in favour of public service and accountability. Thinking the unthinkable when it comes to the Tube should be to raise a levy on pay for a decent service. After all, ousiness leaders have, often and correctly, argued that the deplorable state of the Tube network costs them money in lost working hours. Now is the time for these people to recognise that they, too, have a wider interest than just immediate profit. KEITH FLÈTT

business and industry in London to

I can think of no better project to | London N17

Post letters to Letters to the Editor, and include a daytime telephone number. Fax: 0171-293 2056; e-mail: letters@independent.co.uk. E-mail correspondents are asked to give a postal address. Letters may be edited for length and clarity. We regret we are unable to acknowledge unpublished letters.

Royal Academy's malevolent critics

Sir: David Lister's article (13 June) concerning sculptor Rachel Whiteread's turning down membership of the "stuffy and stifling" Royal Academy focuses on the growing and unfair - criticism of our oldest and most venerable art organisation.

The chorus of critical abuse against the broad and healthily eclectic Summer Show forgets the value of an exhibition that does not pretend to be anything other than a mixed bag reflecting a complete range of contemporary styles.
Public taste is thereby appeased in a location that is in effect a shop window to the world. As many as two-thirds of exhibits are sold, so the show must be doing something right. What is right is that the meek and mighty, young and old, abstract and representational coexist in a

congenial and meritocratic context. What is also overlooked by our critics - rightly identified as malevolent by RB Kitaj - is that the RA today is probably the art world's most democratic institution. It is, after all, run mostly by artists.

Compared with the Tate Gallery, for example, which is "governed" by a director and an autocratic junta of trustees, the RA has a rotating selection committee to ensure continuity with the past and open-mindedness to the future. The last thing it needs are artists of dubious talent hyped up by the media for newsworthy value. PETER DAVIES London W12

Authentic polenta Sir: How I hate snobbery in relation

to Italian food (Letters, 14 June). I have lived in both Rome and Venice and have spent many holidays with Italian friends in Verona and Turin. They are certainly not precious nor spobbish about food - they simply eat what is grown and produced locally. As for polenta, they eat it in the cooler winter and early spring months as it is so filling, usually accompanied with a heavilyseasoned meat stew - perhaps rabbit - to take account of the very bland taste of polenta. And not a chargrilled vegetable in sight. CAROLYN WRIGHT

Published report

Benllech, Gwynedd

Sir: Christian Wolmar ("Unelected. unaccountable and still unchallenged", 13 June) states that many and controversial bodies such as the Funding Agency for Schools ... do not even bother to produce an annual report".

Reports for the first two years of the agency's existence, 1994-95 and 1995-96, are available on request (and widely circulated to education journalists). A report on 1996-97 is in preparation and will be published shortly. ROGER WITTS Head of Communications Funding Agency for Schools

Useful worm

Sir: Regarding your recent correspondence, "earworms" might have their uses. In Alfred Bester's science-fiction classic The Demolished Man (1953), the murderer inflicts one on himself as a shield against a telepathic detective. KATE WALLER Wolverhampton

Judgment day for McDonald's

After a decade, the clash between two unemployed anarchists and the hamburger king is over. But whatever the verdict, Ronald McDonald will be left with a nasty taste, says Danny Penman

> onald McDonald woke up this morning with a particularly fearsome grimace. It should have been a smile because a new McDonald's restaurant had just opened. Throughout today, like every other day, a new McDonald's restaurant will open every three hours somewhere on the planet. So massive is the burger chain that beef from almost 1 per cent of the world's cattle now passes through its doors to be placed between slices of bread.

> All this would make Ronald McDonald beam with pleasure were it not for one small thing - McLibel - the longest trial in history. McLibel, the judgment on which will be handed down today, started out as a seemingly pre-ordained contest between two unemployed environmentalists from north London and the world's most powerful burger chain. The bizarre trial focused on the con-

tents of a "factsheet" produced by a group of green activists in the mid-1980s. The factsheet accused McDonald's of producing food linked to heart disease, diabetes and cancer and of abusing animals, its workers and the environment. McDonald's claims it is libellous. The "McLibel Two", Helen Steel and Dave Morris, say the allegations are true. The allegations and counter-claims have been aired in the High Court over 30 months and have been supported by nearly 40,000 pages of evidence. The seemingly endless trial has explored the inner workings of one of the world's most high profile multinationals. It has seen an explosion

in green activism across the country. When McDonald's issued the writs in 1990, Swampy was doing his GCSEs, Twyford Down was one of southern England's most treasured beauty spots

And when McDonald's finished its summing-up last December, the road-building programme was in tatters, the veal calf trade had been destroyed and Sheli had been humbled by Greenpeace.

As well as mirroring the growth in the green movement, McLibel has become one of its main rallying cries. The company has become "environmental enemy number one", in the eyes of many, for the same reasons it has

become such a commercial success.

McDonald's is founded on four core values: efficiency, calculability, predictability and control. Everything the company does is designed to maximise



The McLibel Two: Helen Steel and Dave Morris vs 'McDonaldization'

profit. Every unit of input, whether its the number of steps a burger-flipper takes across the kitchen floor, or the number of dollops of ketchup on a burger, is checked and rechecked.

At McDonald's, predictability marches hand in hand with efficiency. McDonald's food may not taste good but wherever you eat it, it is no better or worse than it is anywhere else. To enhance predictability, McDonald's aims to have total control over everything it does. Only then can the company enforce its rigid, profit enhancing system. One of the company's manuals states that "grill men" have to move left to right, put out six rows of burgers, flip the third row first, then the fourth, fifth and sixth. Only then can they move to the first two rows of burgers.

Ray Kroc, who founded the McDonald's empire, wrote that the french fry was "sacrosanct", its preparation "a ritual to be followed religiously". Or, as one former dean of the Hamburger University, where McDonald's trains its senior staff, put it: "It gets so your blood

turns to ketchup."

The McLibel Two and their supporters say that the logic symbolised by multinationals such as McDonald's has imprisoned society in an "iron cage of rationality". This logic forces everyone, subconsciously, continuously, to seek new ways of enhancing efficiency, pre-dictability and control, no matter what the cost to humanity or the environ-ment. They call the process "McDonaldization".

McDonaldization is no longer limited to the burger chain but has been copied by a host of enterprises, from rival fastfood chains to local government. Hotels, shopping mails and fast-food outlets around the world are indistinguishable. There's global television, global brands and global music. The only ethics are free trade, the free movement of capital and freedom of choice, so long as you accept the indus-trial logic underlying those principles.

Professor George Ritzer, a sociolo-gist from the University of Maryland, warns in his book, The McDonaldization of Society, that the logical, or "rational", system promoted by the burger chain may eventually "become a system that controls all of us".

"McDonaldization is with us now, has been with us for a while and is extending its reach throughout society," he says. That has already resulted in the largest 500 companies controlling 42 per cent of the earth's wealth. Of the biggest 100 economies, 51 are corporations, the rest are countries. Only 27 countries now have a turnover greater than the sales of Shell and Exxon combined.

The World Trade Organisation and a host of other transnational organisations are part of the apparently "rational" systems that are being crected to promote the interests of multinational corporations. The health of the environment and society is not an intrinsic part of their remit. If rational (McDonaldized) systems are leading the world to disaster, as the McLibel Two and their supporters believe, what is the alternative

The McLibel Two believe that green anarchy offers an alternative to a McDonaldized society. They are careful to draw the distinction between the popular perception of anarchy as chaos and its true meaning - which is "without government".

"It's not idealism." Ms Steel says. "It's just wanting an ideal reality. Most people in this world want a more equal, fair and caring society. That's why we're

anarchists - in the true sense of the word. We want a harmonious society in which government and corporations are abolished because they're unneceson the two defendants.

sary. It's a logical development of people not wanting to be bossed around." To the jaded ears of big business such views probably sound naive. But they appear naive only because business has been conditioned to accept only one set of values - that of increasing profitability by enhancing efficiency, predictability and control. All else smacks of hopeless idealism. Big business and the politicians prefer to deal with reality, even if it is collapsing around their ears.

The views of Ms Steel and Mr Morris were probably irrelevant to McDonald's before the trial. Since then, they have been forced to take them very seriously. McDonald's supremacy in the marketplace and its legendary PR and marketing machine appears to have faltered when the company reached the High Court. The case was deftly turned into the most exhaustive analysis of a multinational company, its ethics and working practices ever undertaken anywhere in the world.

It proved to be a unique opportunity to cross-examine top executives from a multinational company. Normally campaigners, journalists and the public are fed with pre-packaged sound-bites. But once McDonald's was in the dock, its senior executives had to answer the questions, no matter how uncomfortole they were. During the trial, the court heard that

McDonald's employed seven private detectives from two agencies to monitor London Greenpeace, the organisation to which the McLibel Two belonged. Meetings of less than 10 people were often attended by three or four McDonald's agents. It was also revealed

that Special Branch helped McDonald's and supplied it with crucial information

Making it for McDonald's: its employees are schooled in 'efficiency, calculability, predictability and control'

The court also heard that burgers were sold to the Japanese on the basis that they would make them tall, blonde and pale. But perhaps most damaging for a food company, one ex-store manager told how staff were forced to serve burgers over kitchen floors covered in raw sewage. McDonald's, however, vociferously denied the effluent

arly in the trial, McDonald's became so concerned about the adverse publicity that it flew over senior executives from the US for "peace talks" with the McLibel Two. Once again, it failed to understand the

In a press release shortly before the trial, McDonald's had accused the McLibel Two of lying. That provided the basis for Ms Steel and Mr Mortis to sue McDonald's for libel. Their action was heard concurrently with McDonald's. McDonald's had to defend the allegations it made in the press release. That ensured that the company could not just walk away from the trial when the publicity became too bad. It had to stay and fight or admit in court that it had libelled the McLibel Two. On that count at least, the two amateur lawyers

had outwitted the \$30bn burger chain. It is difficult to see how McDonald's can dig itself completely out of the hole in which it now finds itself. The company modified its case half way through the trial. It was accepted in court that the McLibel Two had nothing like the equivalent resources to defend themselves, which is a central feature of the European Convention on Human Rights' definition of a fair hearing. Nor

were they permitted a jury, McDonald's having successfully argued that parts of the evidence would be too complex. Consequently, in the eyes of many, the judgment, if it goes against Ms Steel and Mr Morris, will be almost meaningless.

But more disastrously for McDonald's, it appears to have given its greatest critics an almost unlimited supply of publicity. This paper, for one, has followed every twist of the trial. Channel 4 has transmitted a three-hour reconstruction of it. BBC1 will screen a McLibel documentary at the end of June. A book has been written about the case.

Since the start of the trial, more than 2 million copies of the offending leaflets have been distributed world-wide. A site on the World Wide Web containing details of the case has been accessed tens of millions of times. It has versions of the "What's Wrong With McDonald's" factsheet in a score of languages. All Internet users need do is to click a button and they can have an inexhaustible supply of the leaflets in the language of their choice.

Ronald McDonald's agony will not cease today. Finally, after the case has gone through the appeals procedure, when the European Court of Human Rights has passed its verdict (some time in the early part of the next century) the public, before handing over their hard cash, will still have to make their own minds up whether the allegations in the factsheet are true.

McDonald's customers will need to assess whether the company respects its workers, animals and the environment and whether its food is linked to heart disease, diabetes and cancer. By what they have revealed during the trial, the McLibel Two have made that judgment infinitely easier.



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of what can only be called Albanian proverbs. These are different from the proverbs we are used to. Our proverbs are normally flimsy at first sight and then turn out to have deep sense and staying power. Albanian proverbs sound pretty thoughtful at first hearing. but fade away the longer

you think about them. Try them. You won't

Give a dog a bad name. and everyone will want to buy one as a guard dog.

There is one thing called a tea spoon and another thing called a coffee spoon, but what is the difference! Especially as they are both, in fact.

Nobody can ever think of the name of a Portuguese composer off the top of his head.

An empty notebook is

is already full of such things as pages and lines. The only thing missing from an "empty" notebook is human stupidity.

At the end of a concert, the man who gets all the applause is the only man in the orchestra who has not played a note of music all evening.

What children need is not more sex education, of which they have quite enough already, but more love education, of which they probably get none at

Information technology is a branch of human knowledge which says at the outset that a rigid square object is a "floppy disk" and that a soft bit of paper is "hard copy". No wonder it is not universally trusted.

In a country which has 100 per cent illiteracy, there is no problem with



Miles Kington

When two left-handed people meet, which hands do they shake?

It was not until man had perfected the invention of clear window glass that he set to work to invent a kind of glass you couldn't see through frosted glass.

Whether an artist pegs

grand old age, be always manages to die exactly a hundred years before his centenary.

Nobody ever found a message in a hip flask.

If the Great Wall of China is really the only man-made object that is visible on Earth from the moon, what is it that makes London invisible?

In what language did Latin families write their family mottoes?

It is not necessary to bribe a jockey to lose a race. In any race, the majority of jockeys will lose anyway, despite the fact that they are all being paid to win,

Nobody has ever induced a bubble to go downwards.

When opening a dictionary, you never go straight to the word you want to look up.

The only journalist who can be trusted is the one who tells the truth about his expenses.

First fizzy water was called "fizzy water". Then it was called "naturally carbonated water". Now it is called "sparkling water". But still water has always been called "still water".

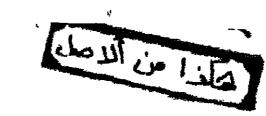
Nobody ever sees a waiter trying to catch a diner's eye.

the property of the second sec

There was no such. thing in nature as a weed, until man came on the scene and designated certain wild flowers as weeds.

From the viewpoint of any species but man, Homo sapiens is the worst weed on our planet.

What is the opposite of a full moon? What is the opposite of an upright piano? What is the opposite of widow's



the commentators

Never mind the Nerd, vote for Old Rustbucket

en Clarke is now the Tories' unity candidate. His extraordinary, once unthinkable, seizure of this mantle from William Hague happened even before John Redwood's sensational endorsement of him yesterday. It was made possible by one event: Hague's unforced error in waruing that he would not accept as members of his Shadow Cabinet anyone who did not, like him, rule out the single currency for a decade. Redwood's backing dramatises what had already been true: that Clarke was prepared to have Tories of every shade of opinion in the Shadow Cabinet while Hague was not. While the terms of the Clarke programme were necessarily inclusive, those of Hague's were necessarily divisive.

Envisage, after the events of yesterday, life after a Hague victory. The Redwoodites would continue to harrass him on the single currency because they despise Hague's formulation: if you're against the single currency in principle then why only for a decade? The Clarkeites will not close off the option of joining before the decade is up. Neither Clarke nor Redwood are prepared to serve under Hague, any more than Iain Mcleod or Enoch Powell were under Alec Douglas Home in 1963. Even before the Redwood pact the consequences of not voting for Clarke as leader, at least for those MPs with a lingering sense of reality, had begun to look direr than the consequences of doing so. How

much more dire now.

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For, as some of Hague's supporters must now be reflecting. Ken Clarke still has the potential to be a brooding and dangerous presence in the darkness outside the Shadow Cabinet to which Hague's doctrinal rigidity would consign him. If, as is looking increasingly possible, the Government decides to sanction proportional representation for the European elections in 1999, the temptation for pro-European Tories to test the water for separation by standing on a different platform from the leadership will prove almost irresistible. The prospect of wholesale defections has doubtless been exaggerated by Labour for their own; destabilising, purposes. The possibility that the party under William Hague would sleepwalk towards schism and collective selfdestruction isn't an exaggeration at all.

It's true that a Clarke victory doesn't of itself guarantee a stable Tory party. One rightwinger, complaining before yesterday's pact about the choice between a "nerd in short trousers" and a "Heathite rustbucket", but intending to vote for the rustbucket, said that he was doing so not because Clarke was the strongest leader but because he would be the most vulnerable, and might be successfully challenged as early as November 1998. But this trouble-making scenario omits an important variable: the party in the country. If, under Clarke, the party is given a long overdue vote in leadership contests then Clarke's leadership could be rather more secure than the detabilisers hope. The constituency chairmen back Clarke already; given all their past record of loyalty to the incumbent, that support will harden like clay in the sun once he is leader. But there is another factor, to do with the real world into which Clarke has now lured his

Donald **Macintyre**

Clarke may have been around for a while but his inclusive programme means any MP with a sense of reality must support him

Major made most of yesterday. Blair doesn't seem to have given much of significance. He insisted that the primary importance of Nato to its European Union members was written into the text; and the vague reference to the possibility that the Western European Union might sometime in the distant future be "integrated" into the EU isn't much different from the idea of the WEU as a potential defence "component" of the EU envisaged in the Maastricht treaty signed by John Major. much different from the idea of The point of all this is first that it's painfully obvious Blair isn't the Euro-patsy some of Hague's allies, such as Michael Howard and Peter Lilley, wanted to paint him. And second that public opinion may actually start to reflect the idea that making deals can work as well as stopping them. In that event, the Clarke-Redwood pact may be one for the times, recognising, as it does, that you can't build a political programme exclusively on the empty proposition that Blair is determined to sell out British sovereignty whenever he can. Hague has talked bravely during the campaign of "repatriating" the powers which he assumes fondly Blair will give away. The Clarke-Redwood text empha-

new Shadow Chancellor designate, and which was embodied

in the unthreatening Amster-dam treaty unveiled in the Commons by Tony Blair yesterday. The new Prime Minister may

just be changing the terms of trade on Europe. Compared with the extravagantly integra-

tionist hopes of the Germans

and the Benelux countries just

a few months ago, the Inter-gov-

ernmental Conference has had

a modest, pragmatic outcome, in which Blair, even allowing for a

little post-summit euphoria in

his circle, appears to have played a genuinely influential role. He did it by all accounts by being co-

operatively communautaire - using his lawyer's mind to

redraft texts, for example - when

it didn't hurt British objectives.

as well as by showing a Thatcherite stubbornness when

it was necessary. And it isn't, as

John Major found yesterday,

easy to kick up a storm about the

use of qualified majority voting

over research and development

or anti-fraud measures. Even on

defence, the one issue which

of the British body politic? Not, of course, if Hague wins tonight. One of the problems is that many Tory MPs think that this is as small as their party in the Commons can get. Normally in a leadership contest there are enough MPs in threatened marginals to think about the voters when they make their choice. Having been hammered in the election most Tory MPs think they are now in safe seats. The irony is that the one way in which they could be reduced still further is to vote for Hague and a splintered party. Voting for Clarke and Redwood may not be a sufficient condition of saving the Tory party but it is certainly a necessary one.

sises, in terms that Blair wouldn't disagree with,

the need for a liberal Europe of flexible mar-

kets, and that both men agree on everything

except the single currency. On which, if it came

to it, a Tory Cabinet or shadow Cabinet would

be allowed to divide as Harold Wilson's did in

1975. Is it even just possible that some of the

poison of Europe is at last about to seep out

nexplicably Popular
Cliches Dept. Listening
to "Yesterday in
Parliament" on Radio 4's Today programme, I heard the new Solicitor General, Charles Faiconer making his maiden speech in the House of Lords. The genial Falconer said he'd been happy to say goodbye to law practice and even happier that he would never again have to face smart-alec broadsides from his judicial colleagues. But now, as he surveyed the faces in the chamber, he realised they were precisely the kind of top legal brains from which he was escaping... "I thought on that day," he concluded, "you can run but you can't hide."

I was in the bath at the time, and I thrashed the floating duck with a loofah in a fury. Has this moronic phrase become mandatory among politicians? There, for example, was little William Hague in the Sunday papers, sounding a teeny-weeny bit out of touch with recent events as he warned Tony Blair: "Within a few days you will begin to face the full fire of a united Conservative voice. You will not be able to hide from this voice. You will no longer be able to run away from this voice. It will be shouted loud and clear from every rooftop in the land." I thought the only thing being shouted lately from every rooftop in the land is that the Conservative voice, unified or not, should eff off for the time being. But that running/hiding interface - it

turns up everywhere now, as the cliché du choix of the pompous, the bullying and the self-righteous. And it never works.

News came in yesterday that US police had tracked down a Pakistani gımman who killed two people at the CIA's Virginia HQ in 1993.

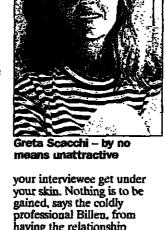
What did the State Department have to say about the arrest? It was "an important victory for US efforts to combat terrorism,



that terrorists have no place to run and no place to hide" -except, obviously, Asia Minor for four years. Lawrence Eagleburger, US Secretary of State in 1992, announced thus his intention of getting tough with Serbian war criminals: They can run but they cannot hide." There followed a period of diplomatic silence in which nobody ran, nobody hid and nobody got accused of anything. Both American threats harked back to Ronald Reagan's warning to international terrorists in 1985, after a TWA jet was hijacked, that the US "had sent a message to terrorists everywhere: 'You can run but you can't hide'". Where did he get it from? According to my sources, it started with Joe Louis, the boxer, who said it about an opponent, Billy Conn, in a heavyweight championship fight in 1946, shortly before knocking him

My theory is that this tedious and obviously false phrase derives from Francis Thompson's gorgeous poem "The Hound of Heaven", about the all-seeing eye of God, published in the early 1890s ("I fled him down the nights and down the days/... and in the mist of tears/I hid from Him and under running laughter") but whatever its provenance, I simply can't stand to hear it any more. Anyone using it henceforth

will be hunted down by police



with tracker dogs. You can hide but... Oh shut up.

ndrew Billen, the

interviewer for the past

Observer's star

Standard, wrote a reflective

piece in last Sunday's paper

about the perils of letting

seven years, who has

departed for the Evening

having the relationship between interrogator and victim compromised by any degree of, er, closeness. He then tells the frankly sweatinducing story of the afternoon he spent with what he coyly describes as "one of the most beautiful actresses in the world" - how she took him up to her bedroom. discussed screen nudity, explained (with, as it were, colour slides) the sexual positions she was persuaded to adopt by nasty directors, took him downstairs, cooked him pasta and indicated that he should, how shall I put

this, stick around... Billen does not give the lady's name away. But his fans will recall with clarity his interview in May 1995 with Greta Scacchi, the far-fromplain actress famous for preferring to act without the encumbrance of clothing. Looking at Billen's interview now, one sees it as a

The critics fall for the novelist's scholarly epigraphs every time ... you couldn'tmake it up john walsh

masterful bit of editing, in which Ms Scacchi's writhings are interpreted as a personal frenzy of irritation with directors. Two years on, we get the real details: how she explained the angles at which her breasts fell in a scene, the "bat's squeak of flirtation" he felt coming from her, her invitation to stay, his making an excuse and leaving. Taken separately. the two pieces are cool. analytical, objective. Put together, they amount to a seduction scene that has had the rest of the Male Interviewers' XI groaning: "Andrew - how could you?"

he Birmingham novelist

Jim Crace has been

picking up rave reviews for his new novel, Quarantine, an extraordinar, re-imagining of the 40 days Christ spent in the wilderness being tempted by the Devil (or, in Crace's re-telling, tempted by a satanic fellow pilgrim). Reviewers have dwelt especially on the minute detail with which Crace describes the bleak terrain of Judea in AD20 or so, and his love of obscure words. Some even suspect that he may have had the nerve to make up some - and quite right, 100. He invented lots of them, like "tarbony" and "swagfly" and "heddles" and "aggry" ... So it is with relief that reviewers have fallen upon the epigraph at the start of the book, a solidsounding quotation from The Limits of Mortality by Ellis Winward and Professor Michael Soule (Ecco Press, New Jersey, 1993): "An ordinary man of average weight and fitness emharking on a total fast - that is, a fast during which he refuses both his food and drink - could not expect to live for more

Many critics seemed familiar with the work. The Times referred to "the scientific evidence" of "a 1993 medical study on mortality". The *Times Literary* Supplement likewise homed in on the epigraph "from a physiological treatise". Sorry chaps, it's neither. It's a

than 30 days."

complete fiction. All of Crace's four previous novels bave carried epigraphs and they've all been fake as well. As novelists sometimes do. he's made it all up. Continent featured a helpfully apposite quote from the Histories of Pycletius ("There and beyond is the seventh continent seven peoples, seven masters, seven seas. And its business is trade and superstition") about whose works critics nodded familiarly. Arcadia starts with a quote from the Truismes of one Emile Dell'Ova, whom one American critic described as this sadly neglected aphorist". The Gift of Stones opens with a whiskery rumination from Digs and Dimensions: Memoirs of an Excavationist (1927) by Sir Harry Penn-Butler. Reviewing The Gift of Stones. Sir Frank Kermode mentioned the epigraph in passing, and its author, old 'Harry Penn-Butler" casually dropping the "Sir". as knights do when addressing each other.

"Every time, four or five critics fall for it and pretend intimacy with the work." confesses a not-very-shamefaced Crace. "They embroider and invent. they know more about the books than I do, and I made them

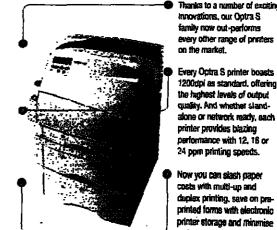




Joe Louis and Lawrence Eagleburger: you can run but you just can't hide from an abominable cliché



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The puritans would purge the hippies

The masters now are not of the liberal generation. Sex 'n' drugs are out, says Paul Vallely "relatively harmless"

with New Labour. Yesterday she found herself under attack by one of Jack Straw's underlings over her suggestion that eight-year-olds should be given positive information about the use of cannabis. "People smoke marijuana because it makes them feel happy," the tots should be told, according to her latest book, Questions Children

The good doctor, who combines agony aunthood with best-selling advice on health and parenthood, would like to see the law on cannabis reviewed. She is now working on The Drug Users' Guide, an instruction manual outlining to youngsters the safest methods of drug-taking, which she describes as a "how to take drugs safely and how not to die" book. She was swiftly lambasted by the Home Office minister George Howarth. "Drugs devastate those who take them, their families and their communities," he said. "I refuse to accept that drugs have become part of growing up. I don't believe it's helpful for prominent figures to make these sort

of statements." It was not the only such row. A consultant psychiatrist who prescribes heroin on the NHS to addicts at his clinic was attacked in similar terms yesterday when he opined that nowadays it is those youngsters who refrained from drug

local Labour MP who rejoices in the name Derek Twigg. This is totally out-oforder," the MP fulminated. The Labour Party was opposed to legalisation "in any

Indeed. But I reckon it was the sex which really got up the New Labour, New Puritan noses. "We must learn to trust our children," Dr Stoppard volubly told a Daily Telegraph

interviewer. "My sons got used to talking about sex early on. Every one of them has been to me with really intimate stuff. I mean intimate," she said, and went on to recount the tale of how she was sitting at the kitchen table one day when her 17-year-old brought his girlfriend home and promptly took her off to the guest room for the night. "Well, I certainly didn't want them to have sex in the garden." Dr Stoppard reflected. So she restricted her reaction to delivering a lecture on contraception over breakfast

the next morning. A generation gap is opening up in British public life and it is not between Dr Stoppard and her offspring. Rather it is between the children of the



Sixties whose post-hippie liberalism now dominates the nation's personal values and the scions of the Seventies whose new puritanism is setting the

tone for our political life. Marijuana is only a touchstone in this. Dr Stoppard, of course, has smoked it herself though she has not, of course, used it for ages. Indeed she "only ever smoked it at parties two or three times. One of the reasons I didn't go on was because it didn't seem to have much effect on mer Because I didn't smoke, maybe I didn't inhale, so it never made me feel woozy." No, it must have been the Incredible String Band album which did that. Or perhaps it was something to do with the shifting interior moral

landscape of the beanbag. By contrast those who were at university in the decade which followed Dr Stoppard's sojourn, like most of the original New Labour modernisers, obviously take their lead from Tony Blair. Avoiding the Clinton elephant trap ("I experimented with marijuana, but I didn't inhale"), the head of the New Labour New Model Army quipped: "I never tried mari-

juana, but if I had, I would have inhaled." Ascetic yet virile, you see: very Cromwellian. Not that everyone in New Labour is so clear-cut. Clare Short, the Secretary of State for International Development, is now quiet on the subject but it is only a few months since she declared that cannabis was

and suggested it might be time for a royal commission to look at the question again. (Her sporting colleague Banks once suggested something similar.) "The poor lady stepped out of line and was rapped over the knuckles." Dr Stoppard recalls, but I think she had sensible point of view. Mine would be very close to that." The Home Secre-

tary, of course, believes no such thing. 1 remember Jack Straw at university. He left just as I arrived in those heady days of sit-ins and Santana so I have no accurate recollection of his attitude to drugs. Perhaps it was that of the Hard Left moralist: the historical objective of a movement representing the workers and the poor is to improve their conditions and not to drag them down into decadence and

unemployability. Yes, perhaps that was it. Which would explain why Mr Straw is now so often under attack for peddling "saloon bar prejudices" in the views of old liberals like Roy Jenkins who was Home Secretary throughout the most permissive of those years. Jenkins decries his successor's populist approach

to law and order, insisting he has a duty to lead public opinion and not follow it.

But other liberals of that era have reformed. "My generation were too tolerant," Philip Bean, Professor of Criminal Studies at Loughborough University, has said. "We are reaping the whirl-wind now." Holland and Spain. which pioneered liberalisation. have found that a rise in the use of cocaine and heroin and accompanying social misery followed the decriminalisation of "soft" drugs.

The link between drugs and crime is well established, Mr Howarth insisted yesterday. There are all sorts of difficulties associated with cannabis abuse. I admit they are associated with heavy use rather than occasional use, but cannabis is a gateway drug. Some of those who start with cannabis can go on to harder drugs."

Doubtless Dr Stoppard's parents would have approved. Orthodox Jews from the poorer side of Newcastle, their approach was highly repressive. So unprepared was the young Miriam for her first period that when it arrived she assumed she had cancer. And when they passed a cinema poster in the street depicting the buxom cleavage of Jane Russell, Miriam's father put his hand over her eyes. Thus was Cromwell damned to everlasting fame. Mr Straw's children had best avert their gaze before the parental fingers

t is not just the drugs. Dr use who were the Miriam Stoppard has deviants. The com-landed herself in trouble ments of Dr John compared to alcohol Marks were branded

business & city

BUSINESS & CITY EDITOR: JEREMY WARNER

Gas bills to tumble as BG loses battle

Ofgas victory will slash revenues by £380m

Business Correspondent

British Gas's high-profile campaign against proposed cuts in its pipeline charges ended in a dividend forecasts. They point-ed to the extra £500m of operspectacular defeat yesterday after the Monopolies & Mergers Commission backed the industry regulator.

The decision will slash the company's transportation charges by 21 per cent and knock an average of £29 off this year's domestic bills.

The MMC's surprise conclusions, accepted by the company, will reduce BG's annual revenues by about £380m until 2002, hitting profits and shaving dividends to shareholders by up to one-half.

City analysts predicted the dividend this year would plunge to between 5p and 9p, compared with 14.5p in 1996.

Clare Spottiswoode, the regulator, described the MMC report as a "vindication" of every basic demand made by Ofgas since the original proposals were launched last May. BG, then British Gas, had accused her of mounting the "biggest smash-and-grab raid in history".

The company had warned up to 10,000 jobs could go from TransCo, the pipeline division, putting customer safety at risk. Some 35,000 small investors, or "Sids", had written to Ofgas to complain at the company's re-

A jubilant Ms Spottiswoode yesterday accused the company of crying wolf. She said: "We always said it was not good to fight a big press campaign to win the hearts and minds of the public. I never understood why they did

But the predicted share price turmoil failed to materialise. BG shares rose 6.5p to 219p after some City analysts raised their ed to the extra £500m of operating expenses BG had extracted from the MMC over five years compared with Of-

gas's figure of £6.6bn. Simon Flowers, head of utility research at NatWest Securities, said: "I don't think this is a total victory for Ofgas. They went back to the MMC with even tougher demands and were kicked into touch. But Ofgas has won a significant victory in other areas.

There was no sign yesterday of the two directors closely astiated with the decision to call in the MMC - Dick Giordano. chairman, and Philip Rogerson, deputy chairman. David Varney, BG chief executive since last year, admitted to being "frankly disappointed" with some of the conclusions but said they were manageable: "I think this presents tough challenges but it represents the umpire's verdict." He said the MMC probe

cost the company £10m. The report sided with Ofgas on the central issue of how much BG's asset base was worth. The MMC has cut the asset valuation for regulatory purposes from the £17bn in the company's accounts to £11.6bn. an even lower figure than Of-

gas had suggested. BG will be able to earn a 7 per cent return on these assets, implying a cut of 21 per cent in pipeline charges, which account for 43 per cent of domestic bills. For the four years from April 1998 charges will drop by 2 per cent below inflation.

The cuts translate into a drop of £29 for an average household gas bill of £325, against the £28 in Ofgas's original proposals. By 2001-2002 the annual saving will rise to £54.

Centrica, the demerged British Gas supply business, is obliged to pass these savings on to customers, though other independent suppliers taking part in domestic competition trials may use some of the cut to boost their profit margins. Neil Lambert, joint general manager of Calortex, said: "In broad terms we will pass it on but I can't guarantee that every customer will get the same impact."

Caroline Harper, managing director of Amerada Hess Gas, said: "I'm going to look at my gas price and my transportation costs and my competitors and then make a decision."

But confusion mounted last night over how much of the savings consumers would see when the price cuts, delayed from April by the MMC investigation, are implemented this October. Ms Spottiswoode accused BG of "clutching at straws" by suggesting it would boost its revenues by passing on some £100m of additional charges from last year which it decided not to levy on suppliers. This would reduce the £29 bill cut by about £4.

"They're trying to make their figures look better than they re-ally are. It's quite false. There's no agreement about when that £100m will be recovered," said Ms Spottiswoode.

Mr Varney would not speculate about job cuts on top of the 4,500 since the beginning of 1996 which reduced TransCo's workforce to 16,000.

This is one of the biggest smash and grab raids ever. This is a very black day for Sid." Philip Rogerson,

What BG rejected		What BG accepte
20%	initial price cut	21%
£28	Domestic saving	£29
RPI-2.5%	Future price cuts	RPI-2%
7%	Cost of capital	7%
£12.4bn	Value of assets	£11.6bn
£4bn	Capital Expenditure	£4,1bn
£6.6bn	Operating Expenditure	£7.1bn

How Spottiswoode won the regulatory battle with BG "This is a tough settlement but, provided we can continue to improve our efficiency, one which we believe will enable us manage and finance our business effectively." David Varney, chief executive, BG 18 June, 1997



BG's David Varney, looking to the future: "I hope I am the more acceptable face of British Gas. This is the umpire's verdict and we will work with it. The MMC has provided an opportunity for both sides to move forward with honour."

A big grin but no gloating

Michael Harrison

The Laughing Regulator was in flying form and why not? After 12 months of hand-to-hand combat with the old enemy. Clare Spottiswoode had trounced British Gas. But was she about to gloat in her moment of triumph? Would she call for the head of Dick Not a bit of it. She may have

been wearing her trademark Cheshire Cat grin, but the director general of gas supply was the very model of magnanimity. Yes, BG had had every right to go to the MMC, even though she could have told

nothing, and no, Ms Spottiswoode did not now expect any-

Ofgas' Clare Spottiswoode, magnanimous in victory: " This is a

large numbers at stake but I don't expect anyone to resign

vindication of our philosophical position. BG had every

right to go to the MMC because there were some very

She was dressed for the occasion in orange jacket, beige three-quarter length skirt and multi-coloured floral silk scarf. A brilliant image on an equal-ly bright morning for the forces of regulation.
But her tone was more in sor-

row than anger. BG might be big but it had turned its guns on the wrong target. Instead of trying to win the PR battle, it should have spent more time winning the hearts and minds of the MMC panel. That had been the focus of Ms Spottiswoode and it had paid dividends, somethem they were on a hiding to thing that BG cannot yet regulation dark blue suit jacket

a triumph for Ofgas, of course, merely "a vindication of our philosophical approach". Now was the time to build bridges and get down to the business of

delivering value for share-

holders and lower bills for

customers. Over at the nearby Institute of Civil Engineers, the venue BG had chosen to present its response, the atmosphere was in keeping with the solemn marblehalled surroundings. David Varney, "the acceptable face of BG", had begun the day by being turned over on the Today programme and now he was

beginning to show the strain. His

sleeves approach, BG's chief executive rattled through a largely incomprehensible guide to the MMC report and then, just as incomprehensively, declared it a score draw.

The talk was also of turning over new leaves and moving forward, not with an air of triumphalism but "with honour". recognising the MMC had created an opportunity for both sides. But had it all been worthwhile? Every bit of it. Given its time over again, BG would still have plumped for the MMC. Not that Mr Varney had got all he wanted. "You don't see me leaping for joy". We didn't Mr

Arnault set to increase stake

Andrew Yates

Bernard Arnault's French luxury goods group LVMH is pre-pared to increase its stake in food and drinks giant Grand Metropolitan to 10 per cent or more in the battle to scupper GrandMet's £23bn merger with Guinness.

He wants to build up a significant stake to exert maximum pressure on GrandMet to force it to consider a proposal to merge the LVMH drinks group Moet Hennessy with the spirits divisions of both Guinness and GrandMet. Mr Arnault surprised GrandMet by paying £27.4m for a 0.23 per cent stake in the group late on Tuesday afternoon.

The combative Frenchman also hopes to increase his negotiating position in a legal battle with Guinness over the fate of Moet Hennessy. LVMH claims the merger invokes a change of ownership clause which gives it the automatic right to repurchase Guinness's 34 per cent stake in Moet Hennessy and lucrative worldwide distribution contracts at a knock-down price.

LVMH has taken its case to French arbitrators. The legal battle could take months and GrandMet and Guinness may be forced to settle out of court to push through the merger.

LVMH is unlikely to buy any more shares in the immediate future. But it is expected that Mr Arnault will gradually increase his stake in GrandMet over the next few months if its price weakens. GrandMet's shares rose 5p yesterday to 586p on news that LVMH has started to buy the stock. Mr Arnault also owns a 14 per cent stake in Guinness but is under a commitment not to raise this further.

The GrandMet-Guinness merger is also likely to face a full enquiry by the European Competition. Competition commissioner Karel Van Miert is expected to announce tomorrow that he has decided to launch a four-month investigation into whether the deal raises serious competition concerns. The US regulatory authorities are also likely to take a long hard look

Fourth director leaves as Toad tries to save costs

Sameena Ahmad

Toad, the loss-making car security company chaired by biotechnology millionaire Chris Evans, has lost its fourth director in five months. Martin Cassey, research and development director, left yesterday to concentrate on other business interests including projects with Dr Chris Evans"

The resignation, which insiders say has been the "only amicable stepdown at this company", was believed to be because Toad needed to save costs. Mr Cassey earns £51,620 a year plus a car and benefits. He is on six months' notice and has no options. "The board was too top heavy," said insiders.

The parting follows the resignation of Charles Parker. chief executive, in February following "irreconcilable dif-ferences of style" after only 27 days in the job. In March, Kevin Turner, managing director, and Iain Brown, who ran the international side, left as part of a central overhead review promised by Kevin Gray, chief

executive. advise Mr Evans, who is Toad's non-jects.

executive chairman, said he wanted a more hands-on role and would run the research business himself.

"I've entrusted this company to other people and it hasn't worked out. It's my penance. I'll do the technical side myself -I'm not a bad scientist." How-ever, analysts said the cuts showed Toad was still under financial pressure. In February the group said sales had fallen "substantially below budget".

But Mr Evans remained ambitious: "I plan to restructure Toad. I want it to be the world's leading car security company." The group will launch an ad-

vanced immobiliser this week and there are rumours of a string of acquisitions and deals over the next few weeks, including a car security contract with a US group which could be

worth £50m in sales. Mr Evans is also expected to announce a range of new re-search technologies outside the car security field in aerospace. telecoms and satellite via partnerships with technology companies. Mr Cassey is likely to advise Mr Evans on these pro-

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Diane Coyle Economics Editor

Post-election euphoria, warmer weather and the first of the building society share windfalls all got the credit for soaring high street sales in May. Whatever the explanation, an unexpected surge in spending revealed by new figures yesterday has increased the pressure for further interest rate

rises this summer. Minutes of the only monetary meeting between Gordon Brown, Chancellor of the Exchequer, and Eddie George. Governor of the Bank of England, at the start of May showed the Bank was then seeking a half-point increase in the cost of borrowing to keep inflation

on target. Interest rates have since risen by that much to 6.5 per cent. But analysts said yesterday the Bank would need to push them still higher, even though Mr George had admitted there was a dilemma over rates because of the strong pound.

They drew some comfort from the Chancellor's state-ment in the minutes, released yesterday, that he "was determined to take action in the forthcoming Budget that would encourage more balanced economic growth".

This was read as a signal of

Volume of retail sales

planned tax increases to take some of the pressure off interest rates and the pound, easing the policy dilemma. But it did not alter the general conclusion that base rates could reach 7 per

cent later this year. The volume of retail sales surged by 1.1 per cent in May according to official figures yesterday. Their year-on-year growth climbed to 5.3 per cent, the highest since July 1988.

"There is a palpable post-election effect evident in the data, with retailers reporting a bumper bank holiday weekend immediately after the poll," said John O'Sullivan, an econ-omist at NatWest Markets. Others suggested the Al-

liance & Leicester flotation had had an impact. A quarter of the free shares were sold at the end of April. "Whatever the reason, con-

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sumers are very confident at the moment. These are not freak figures," said James Barty at Deutsche Morgan Grenfell. There were strong gains during the month in most cate-

gories, with the biggest jump in household goods. Sales of these, clothing and non-store retailing, mainly mail order, have all reached annual growth rates above 8 per cent. Food sales are more sluggish

in year-on-year terms. But they have picked up sharply in re-cent months and jumped 1.2 FTSE 100 index ended just over 25 points lower at 4.657.

per cent in May. The consola-tion in the figures was that there was no fresh sign of a pick-up in inflation on the high street. Price competition hetween retailers still appears

to be pretty stiff. Even the City economists who have emphasised the strong pound and sluggish growth in industry as a reason for not increasing interest rates conceded that vesterday's figures had tipped the balance.

"This surge in sales will alter the policy calculation," said Simon Briscoe, chief economist at Nikko Eurone. Michael Saunders at Sa-

omon Brothers warned that consumers could find themselves in the firing line for tax increases next month. He said this would help case

fears that the current combination of policy was boosting the exchange rate and favouring consumers at the expense of exporters. But few analysts reckoned the

Government's manifesto pledges would allow it to raise the fax burden enough to take all the inflationary steam out of the economy. The evidence that fears of ex-

cessive consumer spending growth are coming true took shares lower yesterday. The

Sales surge puts pressure on rates | Nationwide bars all new accounts

Nic Cicutti Personal Finance Editor

Nationwide Building Society, the largest remaining mutual lending institution, yesterday closed its doors to all new accounts in a bid to shut out freeshare "carpethaggers" gambling that it may be forced into a stock market flotation.

The society's unprecedented move comes just days after it was forced to double to £1,000 the minimum opening levels on its accounts, a move it said was due to the competitive interest rates paid to savers.

However, a spokesman admitted yesterday that a level of new openings, running at more than 25,000 a day throughout Nationwide's n50-plus branches, was no longer sustainable.
"We obviously regret this de-

cision, but it is very important to us that we continue to look after our existing customers and provide them with the service they expect.

This was not possible as

long as our staff were forced to

account openings. We are also disappointed because we know that among those who are speculating, there are also many genuine new customers who want to come to us precisely because we are a building society and are committed to remaining mutual."

deal with large numbers of new

The situation was likely to continue at least until its annual meeting on 24 July. Existing cus-tomers are unaffected and will he able to continue making payments or open new accounts, he added Nationwide's tribulations

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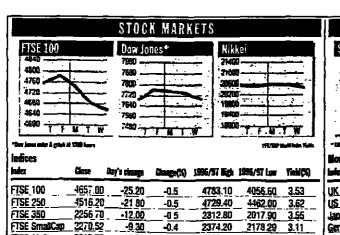
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come as members vote to elect a new board. For the first time, the society faces a challenge from a group of five candidates self-styled Members for Conversion, who hope their election - or even a close vote - will force a change of policy.
The society has refused to

consider the option, even as mutuals such as Alliance & Leicester, Halifax, Woolwich and Northern Rock have either converted to banks or are about to.





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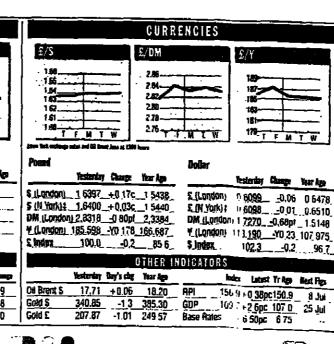
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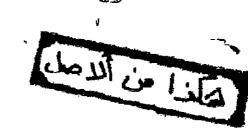
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INTEREST RATES





The image conjured up yesterday by BG is of a score draw with Ofgas. That is an odd sort of result to claim when its asset base has just been slashed by £5bn, its free cash flow reduced by £380m and the

dividend in all

probability halved

BG counts cost of losing the regulatory battle

Richard Giordano, chairman of British Gas, does not like to be associated with failure. Just as well then that he was, very conveniently, busy doing other things yesterday as the company came to terms with its defeat at the hands of the gas regulator Clare Spottiswoode and the MMC.

BG can huff and puff as much as it wants and sprinkle accountants' magic dust over the balance sheet. But the unvarnished truth is that it largely lost the battle, and the intellectual argument, over the pricing formula that will apply to its transportation arm.

The company had two weeks to pore over the MMC report and pick some crumbs of comfort from the wreckage. All it has been able to find is an extra £194m in allowed revenues spread over five years and another 7 per cent on top of its operating expenditure. On all the key issues, notably the value of the assets on which it can earn a return and depreciation policy, the MMC has taken the

side of Ofgas. More ominously for the millions

of Sids created by the last government, where

Ofgas has led other regulators seem bound to follow, starting with Ian Byatt at Ofwal The image conjured up yesterday by BG is of a score draw with Ofgas. That is an odd sort of result to claim when its asset base has just been slashed by £5bn, its free cash flow reduced by £380m, the dividend in all probability halved and 19 million customers offered more off their bills than they would have got had BG sued for peace a year ago.
Was it all worth it? The answer undoubt-

battalion of economic, legal, engineering and public relations advisers is, admittedly, a drop in the ocean. More seriously, it has wasted a year fighting a battle it was always going to lose when that time could have been more profitably spent driving the business forward and learning to live in a more realistic environment where returns to shareholders are aligned to what they actually paid

for the company rather than some notional

current cost replacement value of assets

which have long since been written off. BG took its case to the MMC on behalf of Sid, whom it was claimed would otherwise be the victim of the biggest smash-and-grab raid in corporate history. Now that he has duly been mugged in full view of the law, who should he blame? The previous administration who sold him the business on false pretences or the present management who encouraged Sid to believe BG had a castiron case (35,000 of them wrote complain-

ing to Ofgas at BG's suggestion).

After a year of uncertainty, the reaction in the City was perhaps understandable. Any result is better than no result and whilst it could have been better, it could certainly, as Ms Spottiswoode pointed out, have been still worse for BG.

Nevertheless, the MMC's ruling demonstrates the way that the regulatory winds are blowing and, having lost the argument, Mr Giordano might feel it is time to follow the

edly, has to be no. The £10m BG actually example of his deputy chairman, Philip spent defending its corner, armed with its Rogerson, and start heading for the departion by the state of the new government of media ownership BDB has the rather more credible bid, both policy all the more urgent ture lounge.

ITC's thinking has become muddled

The Independent Television Commission L may be about to put its foot in it again. Having already allowed one of the two rival consortia bidding for digital terrestrial television to change its bid via the back door, it's now gone hot-foot back to the other and said it can have the licences provided it ejects Sky. Whatever happened to due process? Quite apart from laying itself wide open to judicial review on whatever it does eventually decide, the ITC seems to be falling vic-

tim to some very muddled thinking on all this. Let's start at the beginning. There are two pidders for digital terrestrial. One is Digital Television Network, which started life as just International CableTel but was then expanded by the addition of Lord Hollick's United News & Media. The other is British Digital Broadcasting, a powerful consortium of established broadcasters including BSkyB, Carlton and Granads.

The perceived problem with this second bid is the participation of Sky. BSkyB already has a monopoly of analogue subscription TV and will almost certainly dominate digital satellite too. Do we really want to allow Sky to dominate digital terrestrial

in terms of finance and programming. To rule it out on competition grounds might seem silly if the upshot is no digital terrestrial, or at least one unable to command public support.

So egged on by the competition authori-ties in London and Brussels, along comes some bright spark at the ITC to suggest that the obvious solution is to have BDB ditch Sky. Everything else will remain the same, you understand. Sky will continue to provide programming (movies and sport), the marketing and the encryption technology, but it will be excluded from equity participation.

Brilliant! What on earth does this achieve other than the purely cosmetic purpose of being seen to strike a blow against Rupert Murdoch? This might go down well among that small minority of people who feel pas-sionately about Mr Murdoch and his ambitions, but it doesn't make any practical difference at all.

In terms of what the viewer actually receives. BDB would continue to be a monopoly of established broadcasters including Sky. The downside would be that Sky's main commercial interest would lie elsewhere and there would be no incentive for it to make digital terrestrial go with a bang. The ITC should have no truck with this messy compromise. It should be taking each bid on its merits, warts and all. The fact policy all the more urgent.

Labour enjoys fruits of Clarke's hard work

Do last month's bumper retail sales mean Britons simply celebrated the Labour election victory in traditional fashion, by going shopping? Or is there more to it than postelection euphoria? The national jubilation. which did seem to affect more than the 42 per cent of the electorate that voted Labour, probably played a part in sending high street spending surging in May. But consumer confidence, and spending, had been on a firm upward trend since at least the middle of last year. The initial impetus came from tax cuts that

reached pay packets at the end of April 1996. Since then we have had the interest rate reductions in the middle of last year, the first building society flotations, and another round of tax cuts. The results have been predictable. In short, Kenneth Clarke's policies worked. He set the economy firmly on its way to the closest we have got to a boom since the late 1980s.

Unfortunately for him, a Labour Goverament is enjoying the euphoria. But it will also have to take the corrective measures. Spend now, for soon higher taxes and interest rates will spoil the pleasure. Neither Gordon Brown nor Eddie George look like peothat it is not makes the case for a rethink by | ple who appreciate the juys of shopping,

BSkyB told to drop out of bid for digital licence

Cathy Newman

The Independent Television Commission's decision on the future of digital terrestrial television hung in the balance yesterday as BSkyB was told to drop its equity stake in British Digital Broadcasting, one of the bidders for the licences.

The ITC is thought to have informed BSkyB of the news af- reduced stake in the enterprise. ter a "lengthy submission" from the European Commission suggested that it was anti-competitive. BSkyB, which is 40 per cent owned by Rupert Murdoch's News Corporation, shares control of BDB with Carlton Communications and Granada Group. None of the companies

would comment yesterday. It is thought that the satellite gotiate control of BDB's programming and subscriber

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management if it is forced to drop its stake.

However, one source said Granada had threatened to withdraw from BDB completely if BSkyB were not a shareholder. If Granada carried out its threat, BDB's bid would in effect be in tatters. The source said the most likely compromise would be for BSkyB to take a

Although some City analysts suggested Carlton would take a 51 per cent stake in BDB, with Granada being responsible for the rest, others said another party would emerge to take on BSkyB's equity commitment. Cable & Wireless Communications was considered the favourite if Granada and Carlton decided not to split BSkyB's

The ITC refused to confirm the reports, despite pressure

from the markets as BSkyB's rules but the bidders can't shares plunged 45p to 521.5p change the rules themselves." yesterday. A spokesman said merely: We are still talking to

Although the news battered BSkyB's share price, the stock both applicants. No decision has was said to be suffering in part yet been taken." Neither BSkyB from Tuesday's announcement nor Digital Television Network, that the company's top two exthe rival bidder for the digital ecutives, Sam Chisholm and television licences which is David Chance, were to step backed by the cable company down at the end of the year. NTL, would comment last night.

Alastair Smellie, media analyst A number of commentators at ABN Amro Hoare Govett, said that if BSkyB were to withexpressed the opinion that the ITC had now almost certainly draw its equity stake, it would not opened itself to judicial review. only be good news for the com-The ITC has said in the past that pany itself but for the BDB offering. "BSkyB will still be applicants would only be justified in seeking legal redress if providing programming to BDB. there had been "an unfair en-They just won't be putting up funding," he said. "And if DTN Industry observers emphawin they'll be able to provide prosised that judicial action would gramming for them." However be unlikely to work against the he warned that the move would



"The ITC has an awful lot of da commercially, although it Gerry Robinson: Institutional shareholders are promising stitutional shareholders are still conglomerate would make a bid power. It can change its own would boost their share prices. to vote against Granada's bid

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United to back Granada's offer

Granada, the television and leisure group, is aiming to table its formal offer for Yorkshiresources. Yorkshire is expected to win the backing of United News & Media, which has a 14 per cent stake in the television company, although large institutional shareholders are still promising to vote against the bid proposals, writes Cathy Newman.

One industry source said Lord Hollick's United would back the Yorkshire deal, which would be formally placed next week. However, it is thought Granada may be persuaded to offer marginally more than the £11.75 a share originally outlined almost two weeks ago.

Although United's support would allow Granada and its chairman Gerry Robinson to creasingly likely that Lord Hol-Photograph: Reuter dissatisfied. One shareholder for HTV by the end of the year.

planning to oppose the bid said yesterday: "We can't identify any major institutional shareholders Tyne Tees Television as early as willing to back the deal at this Monday, according to industry price. The company, which expressed surprise that Granada had not yet made any further public disclosures about the deal, added it had contacted Yorkshire about its grievances

but calls had not been returned. Institutions which have substantial shareholdings in Yorkshire include Mercury Asset Management, which has been fairly public about its disappointment with Granada's offer, Schroder Asset Management. Barclays Global Investors, LGT Investors, Royal Sun Alliance and Fidelity.

If Granada succeeded in buying United's shares in Yorkshire. analysts say it would become in-

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IN BRIEF

Car exports drive up Japan's trade surplus

Japan's trade surplus rocketed in May, with exports hitting a 15 year high. The surplus was more than three times higher, at 738bn yen, than it had been a year earlier. The politically sensitive bilateral surplus with the US also soared, nearly doubling in May due mainly to higher car exports. The growing trade gap is likely to cause serious US-Japan trade tensions, not least at this weekend's summit of world leaders in Denver.

Shares options for all at Cammell Laird

All 250 employees of Cammell Laird, one of the most famous names in the British shipping industry, will be given share options in the company's forthcoming stock market debut. Yesterday's pathfinder prospectus for the placing, expected to value the group at around £20m, reveals plans for the options and shows pre-tax profits growing from £175,000 to £2.22m in the three years to April 1997. John Stafford, the former accountant turned ship repairer who bought the name and the north part of the famous Birkenhead yard in 1995, will have a stake worth close to £12m after the float. The placing will raise £4m to £4.5m for the company and £2m to £2.5m for the directors who currently own the business

Profits rise at Goldman Sachs

Goldman Sachs reported pre-tax profits of \$1.52bn in the six months to May, a 19 per cent rise on the previous year's first half, on reach enues of \$3.63bn (\$3.13bn). John Thane, chief financial officer, said: "The results for the first half of 1997 reflect a record pace of performance, driven by merger activity in our investment banking area and strong results in fixed income, foreign exchange and equities."

McKinsey to advise on Super-SIB

Consultants from McKinsey and Kingsley Lord are to assist regulators in drawing up a blueprint for the creation of the new Super-SIB watchdog. When Gordon Brown, the Chancellor, announced his plans for a mega-regulator, he said he would require a framework for the transition to the new system by the end of July. SIB yesterday named a 10-strong team to work on the report

AIM raises £1.3bn in two years

The Alternative Investment Market has so far raised £1.28bn for the 283 companies quoted there, nearly half of which are capithe 203 companies quoted there, hearly had of which are capitalised at under £10m, according to figures collected to celebrate the market's second birthday today. Accountants BDO Stoy Hayward, which has done a study of AIM, said recent experience showed that the market was achieving its objective of raising money for a significant number of small and growing businesses.

Boots gets a toehold on the Continent

The first Boots store in mainland Europe opens in Rotterdam today. Two further stores will open in Holland this summer in

financial services 'could save £8bn'

Tom Stevenson Financial Editor

hancement of the bid".

A combination of loyalty and inertia is costing consumers of financial services almost £8bn year, according to a new study. That is how much consumers would save by buying their financial products through direct telephone-based companies instead of traditional branches.

The gap between the cost of mortgages, savings accounts and insurance policies provided by telephone-based services and those offered by branch-based organisations is certain to ac-celerate the shift in distribution methods that has revolutionised the financial services industry.

The pressures on old-style banking and insurance groups were underscored yesterday by Sainsbury's Bank, which in-creased the interest rate it will pay on deposits from 5.75 per cent to 6.15 per cent, less than half a per cent lower than the current base rate. Sainsbury's has signed up 250,000 account holders since it launched the bank in January.

The trend away from branch networks is expected to result in a sharp fall in the numbers of people employed in banking and insurance. According to Business Strategies, the eco-nomic consultancy which con-ducted the research on behalf of telephone insurer. Direct Line, up to 100,000 jobs are likely to be cut over the next 10

Richard Holt, a director of

suspect the changes that have taken place so far are just the beginning and the traditional branch and agent-based distribution networks in financial

services are under threat." The expected fall in employment is despite continuing rapid growth in the financial services industry, the output of which is estimated to have grown from £22bn to £34bn over the past 10 years and which is forecast to increase to £44bn over the pext

Despite waves of redundan-cies, numbers employed in fi-nancial services have actually grown in the past 10 years. According to Business Strategies, the area of greatest overpayment is in the £200bn market for instant access savings accounts.

The research estimates that if all the money tied up in traditional accounts was shifted to the higher-yielding accounts offered by direct suppliers, savers would receive £3.8bn more in interest.

The other area in which consumers are needlessly paying a premium rate is mortgages. Even assuming a £600m cost of switching out of home loans that carry early redemption penalties, the total saving has been estimated at £1.9bn.

Insurance also offers considerable savings, with many consumers tying themselves into expensive household policies offered as part of a mortgage package and paying commissions of as much as 70 per cent of premiums in the uncompet-

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Business Strategies, said: "We itive travel insurance market. Maastricht and Breda. Bass backs crackdown on alcopops ing a series of measures it wants under-age drinkers. Bass is also State George Howarth last

of the alcopops row, has slammed the manufactures of alcoholic milkshakes such as

Andrew Yates

"Moo" for giving alcopops a bad Bass is lobbying the Governnamê. ment to clamp down on "irresponsible manufacturers and retailers of alcopops". It has also hit back at critics by announc-

introduced to stamp out the Bass, the brewer at the centre consumption of its leading alcopop brand Hoopers Hooch by under-age drinkers. There are many irresponsi-

ble brands on the market. We want those banned," says a senior source at Bass Brewers. Bass wants the Office of Pair Trading to give the industry powers to crack down on off-

willing to fund the introduction of a national proof of age card and give money to schools to im-

and give moncy to scaoois to more prove knowledge of the damaging effect of alcohol abuse.

Its actions have been prompted by the public outcry over the sale of alcohops and the move by the new Labour Government to launch its own powers to serve posals to Under Secretary of last week.

week. It claims that most young drinkers prefer other drinks such as cider and spirits. The move is being interpreted as a bid to persuade the

Government to scrap plans for a further tax hike in tax on alcopops. The Co-op and Iceland retailing chains banned the sale of alcopops from over 2,000 of their nationwide stores

Gencor to raise \$1bn through Billiton split

Magnus Grimond

Gencor, the South African mining giant, yesterday announced plans to spin off its nonprecious metals interests in a \$7bn group centred on the Billiton operations acquired from Shell two years ago for \$1.2bn. The group, which plans to raise at least \$1 bn in an international share placing next month, will have its headquarters in London and qualify for entry to the FTSE 100 index as one of the

UK's top 50 companies. However, the current group's 27 per cent stake in the platinum interests controlled by Lonrho, the London-based mining and trading combine, will be re-

which will remain based in Mick Davis, who will move from South Africa.

Billiton, which will have 65 per cent of its assets in South Africa, will be one of the world's largest producers of aluminium, the leading producer of ferrochrome and the biggest ex-porter of steam coal. The new group is also expected to become the world's fourth-biggest producer of nickel following a deal announced yesterday by Gencor to merge its nickel in-terests with the Australian

group QNI to form a new group capitalised at around \$1.7bn. Brian Gilbertson, who will stay on as Gencor's chairman temporarily, will become chair-man and chief executive of the cleared by the central bank, the tained by the rump of Gencor, new group. He will be joined by South African Reserve Bank.

The group had some \$3bn of being Gencor's finance director potential projects at varying stages of realisation to spend the to an executive director at Billiton. Yesterday he said the de-cision to split had been in new money on. These include the expansion gestation for two years: "We had

The authorities had effec-

tively lifted the country's tight

exchange control regulations for

of the Worsley alumina refinery planned an internationalisain Western Australia and the tion of the group and it became Mozal aluminium smelter in clear if we were going to com-Mozambique, both of which pete with the majors we had to are expected to proceed later have access to the internation-

al capital markets." There were also "exciting opportunities for a mining company" in privatised ventures in The \$1bn or more being raised was around three to four South America, Mr Davis said. times what Billiton could have raised in South Africa, he said.

Pro forma profits for the new group, which will start off with minimal gearing, would have been \$698m in the nine months to March, compared with \$921m for the previous 12

Time to stop banking on the financial sector's rise

the strong run in banking shares this year has helped the FTSE 100 index scale new heights, but analysis are divided about the sector's prospects, particularly in the wake of the débacle at NatWest. According to the bulls, the outlook remains good, supported by a benign economic environment of low inflation and low interest rates, which reduces bad debt

provisions and improves earnings quality. That has been one of the driving forces of the sector's dramatic outperformance of the rest of the market in recent years. to sustain their impressive return on because investors have been prepared to accept a lower risk premium for holding the shares. There has also been a cyclical rise in profits and the perception that the

management of banks has improved. The industry's fundamentals are sound. While consumer borrowing growth is running at an annualised rate of 12 per cent, overall bank lending is expanding at around half that, equivalent to the increase in nominal gross domestic product. That has allowed banks to keep margins up.

The problems at NatWest and doubts

about Barclays' strategy with Barclays de Zoete Wedd are likely to be confined to those two banks, on this optimistic view. The poor quality of securities trading and corporate finance profits will not be the same worry for the likes of HSBC, which is pursuing a more focused attack on investment banking, or Lloyds TSB, widely

viewed as the sector's benchmark. Meanwhile, there are plenty more efficiency gains to come as more labour is shed. Assuming the traditional banks can keep up with the shift towards electronic and telephone-based distribution, they should benefit from the lower cost bases enjoyed by the direct suppliers.

The counter-argument to this rosy view is based on past banking cycles and the distortions to bank ratings caused by this year's building society conversions. There is no question that bank shares have been pushed up ahead of the arrival of Halifax on to the market as index tracking and other institutions have scrambled over themselves to build up their weightings.

The normal institutional holding in a Footsie company is close to 80 per cent, yet all the Halifax shares were initially dished out to its savers and borrowers. It THE INVESTMENT COLUMN

EDITED BY MAGNUS GRIMOND

will take several years for the big hitters to build a full weighting, which should underpin the shares.

But despite weakness in the past few days, banking share prices look worryingly vulnerable to signs that they are not able equity. Banks are facing criticism for their high margins and there are signs of pres-sure on returns. Meanwhile, bad debts are starting to creep up. All this is anecdotal as yet but, if past history is any judge, it is during good times such as these that banks sow the seeds of their own nemesis.

Sutcliffe finds the right chemistry

Sutcliffe Speakman's marriage to solvents distributor Samuel Banner at the end of 1995 did nothing for earnings last year, but still looks a wise move. Results for the year to March showed a fall in the combined group's headline earnings from 2.58p to 2.44p, largely due to a dramatic drop in chemicals prices which cost Suicliffe around £400,000. Prices of certain esters and glycols plunged by around 50 per cent. With Banner on board, chemicals now represent over two fifths of total sales.

Including Banner for a full year, as against three months for 1996, flattered profits and turnover comparisons. Excluding a £650,00 restructuring charge and discontinued businesses, operating profits were 89 per cent up at £5.8m on turnover

90 per cent ahead at £71m. Banner may have been a drag but, longer term, there is plenty of logic in the merger. Sutcliffe, whose shares hit an all-time low of 15p in February 1995 following a profits warning and a walk-out by senior management, has been struggling to sell its hitech, high margin carbon products which absorb poisonous vapours from chemical processing. Buying Banner, which dis-

tributes chemicals to blue chips like BASF and Du Pont, gives Sutcliffe a distribution network and turns the combined group into a one-stop source of solvents and solvent disposal packages. One potentially exciting machine is Sutcliffe's Bioreactor which uses bacteria to "eat" toxins. That is being marketed to chemicals customers, but pharmaceutical and printing industries are obvious customers.

Worries over power tussles between Sutcliffe and Banner directors were also allayed. Banner's Stuart Lloyd is running the show as chief executive and the last of the old guard went yesterday with the resignations of both David Martin, who was appointed Sutcliffe's chief executive just before the merger, and Adrian Fontes, Banner's old finance director.

House broker Charterhouse is forecasting fom profits for the current year. Mr Lloyd says chemicals prices are more stable, which helped push the shares up 1p to 24p yesterday, and with European legislation driving the market for chemical states of the shares ical clean-up equipment, a forward p/e ra-tio of 8 makes the shares look cheap.

Internet provider has huge potential

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geres Plan & Parti

Internet Technology, chaired by Jan Murray, founder of the computer Laperstore group PC World, is one of a growing band of companies which provide access to the Internet. This rapidly expanding global computer network has captured the public imagination and it seems that any company associated with it attracts a high rating. But its develop-ment in the UK is still in its infancy. None of the Internet-related groups are making any money as yet and some, like Demon, have run into financial difficulties. That said, Internet Technology, which floated on AIM last year after the reverse takeover of a property shell company, looks more financially robust than most.

It is still making a loss, £1.2m in the last six months, but its expansion is gathering pace and it is now the third largest access provider in the UK. By selling the property portfolio, it has been able to fund a successful marketing campaign and keep its cash flow ticking over nicely. Subscriber numbers have risen from 11,000 to 26,000 in the last year and it is now adding customers at a rate of 700 a week. The recent acquisition of a smaller rival, Xara Net-works, will also help it get a foothold in the

lucrative market for corporate customers.

Of course there are risks. British Telecom has set up its own Internet access ser-vice which could squeeze smaller players and the Internet may not take off as most computer enthusiasts expect. But Internet Technology is well positioned to continue to grow rapidly. It should also make a tidy profit from its stakes in two unquoted hi-tech stocks, Xarr and Redstone

Network, which are due to float shortly. SGST, the broker, forecasts Internet Technology should make a loss of £860,000 this year. Then it should break into the black next year with profits of £1.5m, putting the shares - up 1p at 90p - on a prospective p/e ratio of 23. The shares, which have doubled in the last few months, are not cheap but Internet Technology's huge potential justifies its rating. Hold.

Creating a successful business

Old Maxwell stationery business merges with Straker

Hear ye: Robert Maxwell's old stationery printing business, Oyez, is merging with Straker, the office supplies group, in preparation for a £80m flotation on the London main market next spring. Eight directors, four from each company, will sit on Oyez Straker's new board. They will control around 30 per cent of the group with a combined stake worth £26.4m.

David Cox (left), who led the management buy-out from Maxwell in 1989, will be chief executive. Joining him with around 6 per cent of the combined group each will be Hugh Sear (right), Straker's CEO, as executive chairman and Jonathan Straker, deputy chairman, who will be development director. The combined company has sales of £70m.

	Соп	npany Resul	ts	
	Turnover £	Pre-tax £	EPS	Dividend
Lanber Industrial (F)	23.1m (25.7m)	3.03m (4.06m)	11p (14.1p)	5 75p (5.75p)
City Site Estates (I)	- (-)	0.75m (0.51m)	0.58p (-1.21p)	nd (-)
Comino (F)	7.8m (-)	1.42m (-)	11.46р (-)	2.256
European Meter Hidgs (F)	390m (345m)	8.76m (6.67m)	11.2p (8 9p)	5 6p (5.2p)
Grainger Trost (I)	21.5m (20.1m)	-11.1m (3.51m)	-30.8p (9.8p)	1.62p (1.62p
bilip Harris (F)	139m (120m)	4.35m (2.05m)	25.9p (13 3p)	10p (8 2p)
nternet Technology(I)	1.14m (0.36m)	-1.18m (-1.0m)	-4.22p (-11.87p)	- (-)
homas Locker (F)	64.5m (41.3m)	3.54m (1.79m)	2.91p (1.81p)	1p (-)
Policy Portfelia (F)	30.8m (22.0m)	1.77m (1.28m)	14.6p (10.7p)	6.5p (6.5p)
oundtracs (I)	2.97m (2.96m)	0.18m (-0.03m)	1.35p (-0.3p)	- (-)
isteliffe Speakman (F)	71.7m (38.2m)	4.56m (2.36m)	2.26p (2.2p)	1.1p (0.85p)
hetery Corp (†)	- (-)	-3.71p (-)	-15.90 (-)	- (-)

NPC brings flotation forward

Andrew Yates

National Parking Corporation, the biggest car-parking group in Britain, has brought forward plans to join the stock market in a move which will value the company at £750m. The company is considering launching a flotation as early as next summer.

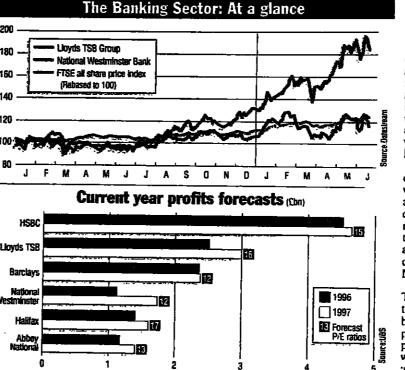
"We have accelerated our flotation plans," said Bob Mackenzie, chief executive. "It would be a good time to come to the market next summer, after our year end."

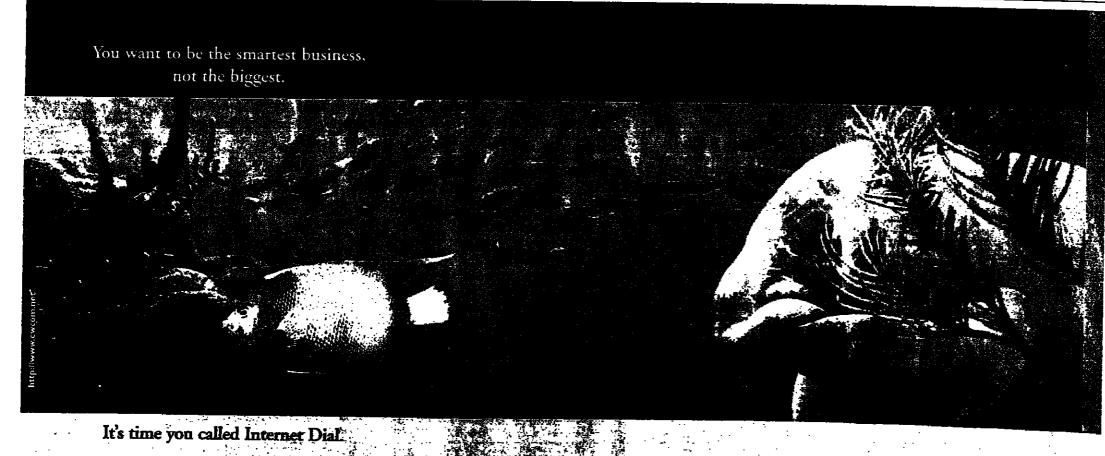
The main beneficiaries will be the two founders, Sir Don Gosling and Ronald Hobson, who own nearly three-quarters of the business. Their combined stakes will be worth £500m. The pair netted £30m between them yesterday when NPC announced the payment of a £41.7m special dividend along with its full-year results.

NPC announced record profits of £46.1m for the year to last March, a rise of 83 per cent. The dividend is equivalent to 35p per share. Mr Mackenzie has been grooming NPC for a float since being appointed two years ago, shortly after talks to sell the business to a consortium headed by Prudential for £700m fell through. He had planned to bring NPC to the market in 1999 but his restructuring programme is going better than ex-300 workers as part of a shakeup of its car park portfolio.

NPC plans to launch a £15m advertising campaign to promote its Green Flag subsidiary, the third-largest emergency oreakdown service.

After closing its French business last year NPC is spending E7.4m upgrading and expanding its base in Leeds.

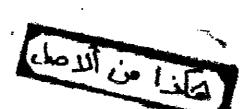




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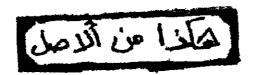
Data Bank

Gilts Index

96.29 -0.39

Share spotlight

share price, pence



THE PARTY OF PARTY

market report/shares

Threat of rise in interest rates adds to Footsie's woe

FTSE 100 4657.0 -25.2 FTSE 250 A stock market already 4516.2 -21.8 weighed down by Budget and FTSE 350 2256.7 -12.0 option worries had to contend with the daunting prospect of interest rates being forced higher next month. Footsie was at SEAQ VOLUME one time 54.9 points lower; it closed off 25.2 at 4,657.0. 840.9m shares, 46,280 bargains .

The modest rally was due to the appearance of a few bargain hunters and a slightly firmer New York display than had seemed likely at one time. A retail sales surge in May, before the Halifax and Norwich Union loot became available, was the signal for higher interest rate fears to grip the

market. It is widely assumed that Labour's pre-election pledge to Labour's pre-election pledge to hold income tax will be hon
the Independent Television Commission wanted BSkyB oured in Gordon Brown's first to unload its stake in British

With institutions worrying about Mr Brown's treatment of their tax relief and unease over tomocrow's futures and options expiry the market remained an extremely hesitant place with few investors, big and small, prepared to chance their arm.

Blue chips were not the only shares in retreat. Second liners were marked lower and the FTSE SmallCap index suf-2.270.5.

BSkyB was the major bluechip casualty. The uncertain-ty about the departure of chief executive Sam Chisholm was compounded by indications



MARKET REPORT DEREK PAIN

ly in line with Lehman Broth-

ers' fair value estimate. BG, after early unease, ended 6.5p higher at 219p as the Monopolies & Mergers Comfered a 9.3 points fall to mission report was regarded as a "score draw" by the market. Indeed ABN Amro Hoare Govett, BG's stockbroker, lifted its dividend forecast to 5.8p

(against 5p) and changed its stance to undervalued. BTR illustrated the presence of bargain hunters. What

stock market reporter of the year sight, BTR bumped along at 184.5p with one still-to-be-ex-

plained trade going through at 160p. Lasmo was another in form. The oil group rose 8p to 269p, helped it was thought by a New York investment presentation. Siebe, the engineer, put on a further 12.5p to 1,001p, reflecting the squeeze following its APV takeover; APV rose

1.75p to 110.5p.
Allied Domecq, the pubs

Burn Stewart, the Scotch whisky group thought to be in the sights of unquoted William Grant & Sons, shaded 1p to

62.5p.
Smith & Nephew, the healthcare group, slipped 0.5p to 174.5p. It disputes alleged claims by Novartis that the Swiss giant has won the battle to produce the best skin graft

to produce the best skin grant treatment. S&N is currently launching its version in the UK.

IES, the security system group, was the day's profitwarning victim. The shares plunged 43 per cent to 68.5p. It said it would be in the red in its first half-wear and wear's in its first half-year and year's profits could fall short of expectations.

The group produces hid-

74,500 shares at 1,853p, netting Shares of chemical group £900,000.

He apparently needs the from 643p in August.

Bid target Albert Fisher, the food group, rose 3.5p to
46.75p as Mercury Asset Management lifted its stake to 5.3
per cent and estate agent John

Note of the chemicals growth and favourable tions for adhesives and equipment. D Wood, which is in bid talks, gamed 15p to 146p as rumours an offer was about to be an-

nounced went the rounds. **Body Shop International** was again pestered by worries assessment tax service. sults. The shares fell 6.5p to

BTP should be due for a run, believes Martin Evans at cash to pay his expenses for moving from Minneapolis to California. The shares fell 45p to 1,837.5p; they have climbed for \$420 in August 288p, should "regain former investor confidence" on the growth and favourable coudi-

British Taxpayers Association, traded on Ofex, jumped 10p to 21p. Through a chain of associates it provides a self about its French operation Earlier this year it attempted which depressed last year's rebut had to settle for a

tions for adhesives and safety

35) 28) Care Come () () () () () () () () () (

G7's focus on trade deals with Africa is not enough

hen leaders from the Group of Seven rich countries meet in Denver at the weekend, they will for the first time have the development of sub-Saharan Africa on their agenda. Although Third World debt has cropped up at previous summits. this has in large part been for selfinterested reasons - after all, who lent the money in the first place?

This time US President Bill Clinton has launched an initiative to boost growth in Africa. It seems western policymakers have become mindful of the fact that disasters in countries like Somalia and Rwanda do spill over into the rest

of the world.
As The Independent reported yesterday, Oxfam has welcomed the US move but criticised its narrow focus on a small group of countries and on trade deals as the mechanism for economic development. They have called for a G7 initiative to focus aid to Africa on primary education.

The Oxfam approach chimes with a paper by the eminent economist Amartya Sen on how the profession thinks about economic development.* Professor Sen criticises the received wisdom that experience proves that state activism spells disaster while undiluted free markets form the one true path

to prosperity. His criticism is centred on the fact that this polarisation, state bad, market good, ignores the part governments have to play in education and health care. Public education and healthcare have been pivotal in bringing about social and economic change across the world. While governments can err by being overactive and too interventionist, they can also make the mistake of being under-active and too idle." He concludes: "It is not particularly helpful to try to see the lessons in terms of a confrontation between the market and the state."

He extends this critique to what he describes as the "fierce" view of the development process, the notion that in some sense economic progress has to involve sacrifice. That could mean sacrificing

Foreign Exchange Rates



Diane Coyle

The economics profession widely accepts the validity of

'human capital' in the concept of capital. It needs to be extended to incorporate 'social capital'

consumption spending for the sake of higher investment, it could mean not spending government money on the relief of poverty in order to keep budgets low, or it could mean regarding democracy and human rights as a luxury poor countries can not afford. This was the view of Singapore's former prime minister, Lee Kuan Yew, who argued that

a cause as well as a o	onsed
economic develor	men
access to education	n and
care boosts human a	
ital; it not only allows	Deod
longer and harmier	

argues that social development is tuence of t. Wide d health ocial capole to lead lives but also boost productivity, economic growth and well-being.

This analysis is shared by the recent UN Human Development Report. Statistics presented in the report establish there is a correlation between low levels of income per head and social indicators. The poorest countries tend to have the greatest income inequality, the most unequal treatment of women. lower literacy rates and so on.
The report indicates there are

similar links between other inequalities and low levels of growth and development - for example, regional or ethnic inequalities. These disparities, it argues, are linked to unfair access to social services, public spending and productive resources such as land.

The accumulation of capital has always been central to theories of economic growth. The economics profession now widely accepts the validity of including "human cap-ital", as well as machinery and buildings, in the concept of capital. New thinking about development needs to extend it to incorporate the concept of "social capital" also - not just the skills acquired by individuals through their education, but the framework of habits and laws in which they can apply those skills. This notion is beginning to make headway among economists

How the least developed countries compare						
Hong Kong Korea	Real GDF per capits 1994 \$ 22,310 10,556	Access to finalth services % 90 100	Adult Reracy % 92 979	Gender equality randing (out of 146) 28 35		
Mali Burkina Faso Niger Rwanda Sierra Leone	543 796 787 352 643	40 90 99 80 38	293 187 131 592 303	143 144 145 Na 146		

Interest Rates

Source: UN Human Development Report 1997, OUP, £16.99

civil rights hampered economic growth. who are reluctant to have much contact with touchy-feely ideas Professor Sen disagrees. He borrowed from sociologists, but is not yet as widely accepted as the

concept of human capital. So Oxfam is right to call on the G7 countries at this week's summit to focus on more than trade preferences and market access as the key to Africa's development. These are important, but not enough.

However, hard-headed economics has its place. If there are dangers in being too triumphalist about free markets, there are also dangers in the influence of the "bleeding hearts". The clearest example of this is in the current push for writing minimum "social standards" into trade deals. The idea, embraced by the New Labour Government, is that countries that do not sign up to minimum standards, excluding child labour or a mini-mum level of wages, say, will not get free access for their exports to

estern markets. Developing countries are unanimously opposed to this idea which they see, rightly, as a vehicle for pro-tectionism by the rich countries. The western unions promulgating minimum labour standards in trade see it as a way of protecting their own members in particular industries. Of course children in developing countries should be at school rather than working. It is better for their own prospects and better for the

But blocking market access to products made by children does not translate into higher investment in education spending. The low labour standards are a manifestation of low past investment in human and social capital. Countries can not be olted into a virtuous cycle of higher investment in education and higher labour standards by blocking the few economic opportunities they have. A new focus on social development in western aid policy is a far better idea.

* Development Thinking at the Be-ginning of the 21st Century, Amartya Sen, March 1997. Available from STICERD, London School of Economics, 0171-955 6691

Liffe Financial Futures

NatWest Markets offers graduates useful advice

PEOPLE & BUSINESS

Oh dear. Martin Owen may have resigned as chief executive of Nat West Markets on Monday, and the parent bank may have issued a profits warning, but no one got round to toning down a graduate recruitment ad for

NWM in the papers yesterday. While black clouds of gloom hang over NatWest's investment banking operation, the ad trills: "At the beginning of your career. making the right decision is absolutely vital. So before you commit yourself, consider what differentiates NatWest Markets from the other leading investment

It then goes on about "an open working culture in which innovative ideas are encouraged, individuals developed and rewarded". Best not to mention this spring's £90m traded options black hole.

"Secondly, as a fast-growing investment bank, we're self-motivated rather than self-satisfied. Our intention of entering the new millennium as a premier global. integrated investment bank ensures we're always competitive,

never complacent." Get your cvs in now.

While we're on the subject, NatWest's problems are getting a bit biblical, in an Old Testament sort of way. Remember last year's fire on top of the NatWest Tower? Now we have floods in the bottom two floors of the Princes Street branch in London, forcing staff to relocate. According to a spokesman a nearby water main burst "without any apparent reason", which suggests divine intervention to start with. Whatever next? A plague of locusts at the agm?

Manchester United's shares fell 11.5p yesterday to 599p after one of its non-executive directors. Amer al-Midani, sold half a million shares in the club. Reds supporters shouldn't despair quite yet, however - the sale only represents 0.77 per cent of the issued share capital of the company. So who is this Mr Midani? A spokesman for the company



NatWest Markets on Monday

isn't that forthcoming: "He had over 5 per cent of the club before it floated six years ago. He has extensive hotel and leisure interests,

principally in Spain."
So there you have it. Seems a bit of a strange time to sell, though. The share price has come back from a high in February of 732p, and most observers expect it to climb again once the new season starts. Mind you, the shares were 427p early last year, so perhaps Mr Midani is just taking profits.

Chris O'Donnell, Smith & Nephew's deputy chief executive, is still on a high following the affair of President Bill Clinton's Knee. You will recall the President ruptured the tendons in one of his knees while visiting golfer Greg Norman. The cause of Mr O'Donnell's pride is that, following an operation, the Presidential knee was firmly held in a place by a Smith & Nephew "Donjoy" brace.

"We are world leaders in knee braces," Mr O'Donnell declares. "The basket ball player Shaquille O'Neal wore one of ours, and so did Paul Gascoigne."
Sadly, President Clinton's knee

Industrial Metals

brace was not on show during his recent trip to Britain - he had completed his physiotherapy by then, says Mr O'Donnell. Before then the knee in question had been kept covered up - "not because the brace isn't attractive, but because the President can't be seen wearing one. It would be a sign of weakness," he says.

Nice to see the Personal Investment Authority (PIA) getting its priorities right. No sooner has the financial services regulator appointed a Roger Bright to head its membership services division – following the sudden defenestration from its Canary Wharf eyrie of former helicopter pilot **David** Cranston – than the new boy

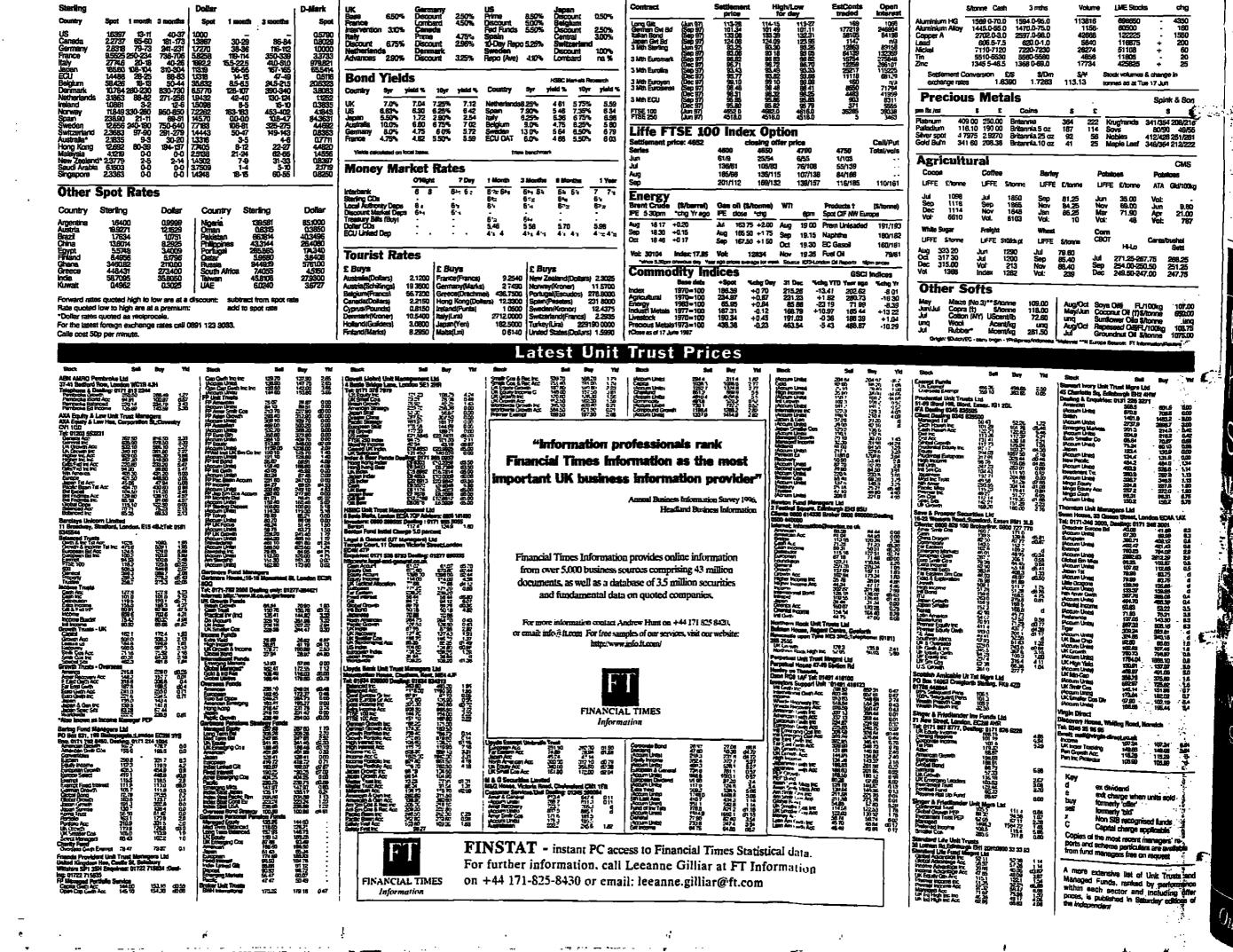
leaps into action. So is Mr Bright close to resolving the ghastly delays in the pension mis-selling review, 18 months behind deadline?

No such fear. His first act, so I understand has been to rename his department. So, out with Membership Services and in with a brand-spanking new Authorisation and Supervision Division. It was about to be called the Supervision and Authorisation Division, until someone pointed out that the acronym might lead to some hilarity among PIA members.

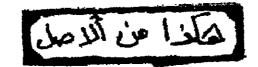
The important thing about the PIA, however, is that it fights to keep its staff, as Malcolm Hedley, a senior member of its monitoring and enforcement team bas discovered. Mr Hedley has been recruited by Prudential to help clean up the company, after the insurer was blasted in a confidential report by the Securities and Investments Board.

So concerned is the PIA that he might be compromised by his new employment offer that it immediately pulled him out of an enforcement visit to one of the Pru's rivals. Is the regulator therefore prepared to let him go early, to solve problems he helped identify at the Pru? No such luck.

John Willcock







Lions learn Test fate by dawn post

Rugby Union

CHRIS HEWETT reports from Cape Town



to this Saturday's opening Test with South Africa in Cape Town and will instead reveal his lineadvance of his initial timing. "The players know the team but, while there are some very disappointed people in the party, the mood is superb and there is no reason to delay," he said. Not that the Springboks were

remotely impressed by all the cloak and dagger nonsense anyway. Carel du Plessis, their coach, was yesterday entirely dismissive of the Lions' naked attempt at psychological warfare: "The way they go about their selection is no concern of mine. I'm happy with the team I have, we're focused on the series ahead and we've analysed all the points and all the play-ers. We're confident of adjusting to whatever combination the Lions throw at us."

QUESTIONS

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Zumiter 🦞

Yesterday was a red letter day for 15 Lions, a half-way house for the six on the bench and a dead letter day for those 14 bystanders left outside in the freezing stuff. Cotton personally wrote to each player and Sam Peters, the party's administrative assistant, acted as postman at 7.45 in the morning, slipping the different notes under the

players' doors. "We agreed during our week-long get-together in Surrey before the start of the tour that selection was a pretty harsh business if those picking the side simply read out the team in front of a gathering of the entire think this approach is far better as those left out know they can

wanted to make sure that those disappointed players had an hour to come to terms with that disappointment before they faced everyone else."

The Lions prepared in secret dead and gone. Fran at Stellenbosch University, the cradle of South African rugby, and, irrespective of the mixed feelings among the squad, they trained with a vengeance for more than three hours. Only Eric Miller, the Irish No 8, failed to turn out - he was suffering from up tomorrow, some 48 hours in a flu bug yesterday.-but Cotton said the 21-year-old was well on the road to recovery.

"There are one or two bumps and bruises and illnesses to sort out before we confirm the line-up in public," Cotton said. "This is Test week, there is no longer any escape and it is absolutely imperative that everyone who takes the field at Newlands is 100 per cent fit."

The tour hierarchy have already spoken to Saturday's referee, Colin Hawke of New Zealand, about law interpretation and they plan another meeting over the next 36 hours. 'We've tried to operate within the boundaries applied by the South African referees since we've been here and we need to make sure that Colin is planning to follow similar lines," said Ian McGeechan, the Lions' coach.

"I don't foresee too many problems because most of the leading southern hemisphere officials have been involved in major Super 12 matches already this season. As long as we know what to expect in and around the tackle area, we'll be happy."

The Springboks are distinctly unhappy at the clause in the tour agreement that prevents them playing their old and new national anthems before Saturday's kick-off. "The rule has been made and we'll have to accept it, but it's important to us and we'll find somewhere to sing squad," said Cotton, who was not the anthems, even if it's in the exactly noted for sparing emo-tions during his playing days. "I dressing-room," said Gary Te-ichmann, the South African captain, who yesterday confirmed his recovery from hamthe whys and wherefores. We Lions play without an anthem. teams.



Horton's mobile earthquake machine

The Springboks have every reason to believe that their first encounter with the Lions' pack in the opening Test at Newlands on Saturday will induce a collision

of earthquake proportions. They will do well to be cautious for the Lions' forwards have been put through a shud-dering experience by Nigel Hor-ton and his travelling Richter scrummaging machine.

The Lions' management were never in doubt that the key to success in the three-Test series against South Africa would be to hold their own in what promises to be a ferocious clash between the opposing front rows. And, if there was any question as to the validity of that prognosis, it was surely put to rights in the first three matches of the tour when the Lions' forwards were given the sledgetalk to me at any time to find out string trouble. Traditionally, the hammer treatment by provincial

The Lions need to make the ground move in South Africa. **Paul Stephens** reports on the man behind the muscle But help was at hand, just as dare smile, was a brilliant line-

tourists spent in England prior to departure for South Africa. As part of of the mutual determination of the manager, Fran Cotton, and the coach, Ian McGeechan, to see that the players wanted for nothing in the way of specialist advice and assistance on the Lions' first professional tour, they enlisted the support of Horton and his strength-sapping, two tonne machine that gives the pack their power.

It is no ordinary device, any more than in his day, Horton was a run-of-the-mill forward while at Moseley.

Horton, capped 20 times for England, with hands like hams one pack have continued to imand a beguiling try-me-if-you- prove.

it had been in the week the out jumper and a superb scrummager who has used his playing experience and the engineering skills of Paul Richter to build a heavyweight monster which stretches every forward to the limit, and can fight back if all eight look as if they are getting the better of it.

Six weeks before the tour began, Horton shipped four tonnes of equipment out to Durban, hired an eight-tonne truck and a six-metre trailer and, along with Irishman Des Beirne, planned a 4,000-mile road journey around South Africa to fit in with the Lions' schedule. Thus far, it has been a voyage of discovery as the Li-

"Measurement is so important," Horton said. "You must have feedback. By working on compressed air, the Richter converts everything into kilos. Not only can it quantify the shove of the whole scrum, it can identify a shortfall in an individual player's performance."

Cotton has no misgivings about the machine's effectiveness: "We had to come to terms with much stronger than anticipated South African scrummaging and it has been a great help in the way the forwards have adapted."

After a 50-scrum training ssion, Jason Leonard, dripping in perspiration, declared it the nearest thing to live scruma real scrum. But this tells us on an unimaginable scale. assaulting a touch judge.

what pressure is coming back. It has improved our cohesiveness; and we are much more solid as a unit.`

The Lions will certainly need to be much more resolute scrummagers against the Boks than they were in the early tour games or disaster beckons. After the Western Province match, Garry Pagel, their destructive loose-head prop. declared that the Lions' front row were "soft." That hurt the Lions more than any other criticism from opponents or media so far during their stay in South

Africa. If the Lions' forwards can make the Springboks squeal in the tight here on Saturday, Nigel Horton will be humming a happy tune throughout the 1,050-mile trek back to Durban. But he will still be ready to ing: "Nothing will simulate – flict more pain on his charge

Tallis' let-off angers Wigan

sport

Rugby League DAVE HADFIELD

The Brisbane forward Gorden Tallis has escaped with a warning efter his flurry of punches to the head of Terry O'Connor in the victory over Wigan this week. Tallis, who risks being known

as "Gorden Gloves" after his boxing exhibition in the second half of the game, has been sent a warning letter by the Aus-tralasian Super League judiciary. That is despite a plea for action from a Brisbane forensic pathologist, Dr Jim Gwynne, who watched the game on television and warned that Tallis' attack could have proved fatal.

Tallis landed six nunches to the head of O'Connor, who responded with one of his own before both were sent to the sin-bin. We would have expected the authorities to take action," the Vigan coach, Eric Hughes, said. 'I'm sure that would have been the case had a similar incident happened in England." Indeed, Hughes has only to recall the Challenge Cup semi-final in March, when a volley of punches earned Bradford's Brian Mc-Dermott a four-match ban.

Alan Hunte, who was feared to have broken his collar-bone in St Helens' defeat by Cronulla, just has bruising and could be fit to face Penrith this Sunday. Sheffield Eagles, Britain's sole winners in the last round of World Club Championship, have a doubt about Martin Wood for the match tomorrow against

Hunter Mariners. Keighley will table a vote of no confidence in the League's board of directors at the Rugby League Council next Wednesday after complaining about having their monthly payment from News Corporation cut. Keighley say they have had £21,000 of their expected £50,000 with held, but the board, which has rejected the complaint, says it is following procedure by distributing instalments on the basis of predicted finishing positions.

Manchester City have approached the League about establishing a Super League club at Maine Road.

The Salford forward lan Blease appeals today against

Wasps strengthen second row with Weedon

Wasps have signed the New Gregory Kacala yesterday Zealander Mark Weedon, a 6ft completed his move to Cardiff 5in, 17st lock forward who was an all-Black trialist in 1995 and 1996 and has also played Super 12 for Canterbury and North

Harbour.
"We now have real strength in what has traditionally been one of our weaker areas," Nigel Melville, the champions' director of rugby, said.

on a three-year contract with the Welsh Cup holders promising they are still in the market for new talent. Kacala, a 31year-old Polish international back-row forward, belped Brive win last season's Heineken

Ambitious Third Division newcomers Worcester have

Jon Callard. Worcester had offered Callard a job as player-coach but Bath were reluctant to release him from his

Cliff Brittle was accused last night of employing bullying tac-tics in his bid to become the Rugby Football Union's new management board chairman.

dropped their interest in Bath's unsettled England full-back Brittle, the executive committee head, had promised "swift personnel changes" if he is elected at next month's annual general meeting, and the RFU president, John Richardson, responded yesterday by say-ing: "The threats issued by Brittle are obviously designed to bully people into supporting him, but it will not and should

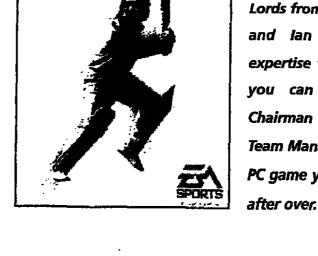
not work."





RAIN STARTS

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SASPORTS



Schumacher **'violated tyre** regulations'

Motor racing

A technical officer at the Canadian Grand Prix has said that Michael Schumacher, who won the race, had exceeded his quota of tyres in qualifying and during the race, but the victory was allowed to stand because a form had not been properly filled out.

Giorgio Toso, a technical official, told Montreal La Presse that Schumacher used 31 tyres - three more than the total permitted - in Saturday's qualifying for Sunday's race. Officials from FIA, Formula One's governing body, overlooked the violation because some of the tyres Schumacher used on his Ferrari were incorrectly entered by race inspectors on the tyre forms, Toso said.

"Ferrari must have found a good explanation or else there was an unwritten agreement between the teams, knowing all the tyres were fragile," Toso said.

Each Formula One car has 36 tyres stamped in its name on the Friday before a race. Before qualifying begins on Saturday, each driver must select 28 tyres for use in qualifying and the race.

Toso, a Canadian of Italian origin who is a Ferrari fan, said his inspectors were certain hit a tyre barrier.

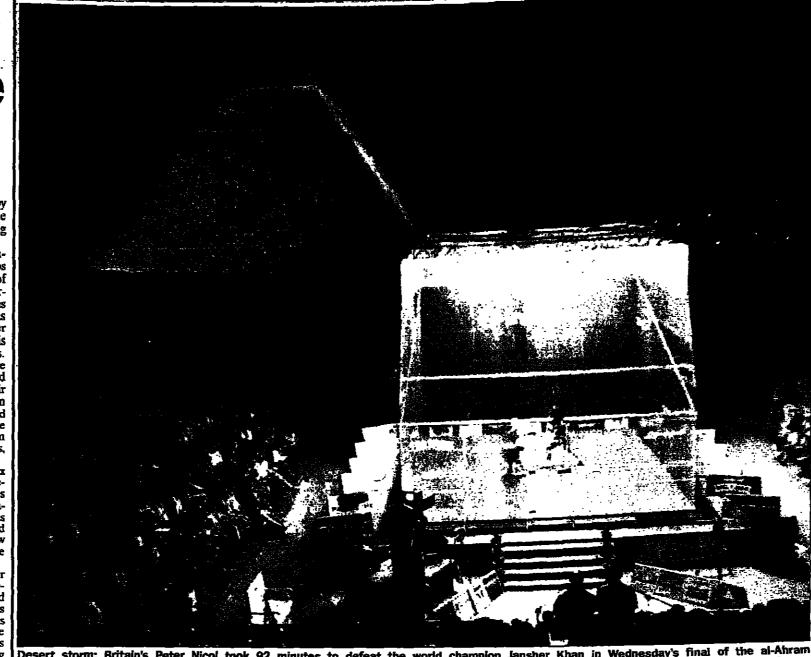
they counted 31 tyres used by Schumacher, However, some were entered in the wrong column on the form.

During the race, Schumacher made three pit stops for tyre changes instead of the scheduled two. The German driver won because he was leading when the race was stopped on the 54th lap after the Frenchman Olivier Panis

crashed, fracturing both legs. Most of the 22 drivers in the Canadian Grand Prix had trouble with blistering to their tyres. Competition between manufacturers has produced very fast tyres that none the less have been coming apart on the track at the last two races. in Barcelona and Montreal.

The FIA president, Max Mosley, has repeated his determination to put the brakes on Formula One's speed machines following Panis's serious accident. Mosley has welcomed the introduction of tight, new safety measures which will take effect from next season.

Panis continues to recover after undergoing surgery to repair two broken legs shattered by the 150mph crash. He was trapped in the wreckage of his car for seven minutes before rescuers lifted him clear, his Prost-Mugen-Honda having



Desert storm: Britain's Peter Nicol took 92 minutes to defeat the world champion Jansher Khan in Wednesday's final of the al-Ahram tournament played in a specially constructed glass court at the foot of the Giza pyramid in Egypt

Char Morley on the charge

Britain's Joanne Morley and Amy Alcott, of the United States, took advantage of the conditions to fire five under the 67s to lead the Evinn Masters at ter the first round yester lay?

They lead the Frenches by one stroke from Yorkshite's Alison Nicholas, with Hings Kobayashi from Japan on Laura Davies, chasing a land consecutive title, three-puted three times for a 74 to faish

alongside the US Open chainpion Armika Sorenstam, who also struggled on the greens at Evian's Royal Club. "I hit 15 greens, which usually means a four-under-par round." Davies said. "My short game cost me again but seven shots can be made up

with three rounds to go.

Morley, of Cheshire, came
home in 32, holing putts of four
and 20 feet for birdies at the 16th and 17th, followed by an eagle from 18 feet at the long 18th hole. Alcott, winner of 29 LPGA titles, also had a stunning run of birdies. She achieved five in a row from the eighth then fired a three-wood second into the green for a closing birdie

the green for a closing birdle four at the last hole.

EMAN MASTERS (Royal Club, EMan): Flest round scores (68 or if unless stated): 67 J Morley, A Alcott (US): 68 A Nicholas; 89 H Kobeyshi (Beparl; 70 T Johnson, S Waugh (Aus; 71 C H Koch (Swe), M Lum (Aus), P Stemer (Swe), L Hadding, L Brooky (MZ): 72 K Poppmeer (Aut), C Donneh (Aus), H Affredsson (Swe), K Marshall, V Sanner (US), M Hjorth (Swe), M Sutton, L Morren (US), J Forbes; 73 M-H, de Lessia (Frd.), X Wanneh (Sp), F Dessu (ti), L Farschiegh, L Dawes, A Soreristam (Swe), D Red, C Soreristam (Swe), C Blaylock (US).

Shepherd strikes as England ride luck

Football

NICHOLAS HARLING reports from Johor Bahru, Malaysia **England Youth** Ivory Coast Youth

The embarrassment of slicing a corner Sunday pub league-style yards behind the goal served John Shepherd and England's Under-20 team to useful effect here last night. Not willing to risk more jeers from the crowd, the Leeds midfielder elected to meet the next corner in preference to taking it.

The outcome was that Shepherd slipped his marker to head England's 68th-minute winner from a corner delivered by Ritchie Humphreys, who had come on as a substitute only seconds earlier. But England's victory in their opening Group F tie at the Coca-Cola World Youth Championships was anything but satisfactory.

With any other fortune going, the Ivory Coast would have atoned for their failure to win a single game in their three pre-

vious visits to this competition with a resounding success. They tore England apart with a flurry of bewitching moves during the first half when Souleymane Cisse's equaliser was the least

Éngland's best player was Michael Owen, the Liverpool forward who, at the age of 17, confirmed he has nerves of steel. Calmly waiting for Serge Gogoua to finish protesting that his fifth-minute foul on James Carragher, also from Liverpool, was outside the area, he then, unerringly, dispatched the penalty.

they deserved.

Somehow England resisted the subsequent onslaught until the 22nd minute when David Lucas completely missed Serge Die's corner which was nodded past him by Cisse. Thereafter England rode their luck. With John Curtis, the captain, restoring some composure to an overworked defence the Ivorians

had taken an earlier soaking from a tropical thunderstorm. England found they had just the man, or rather the puny youth in Owen to relieve the pressure. And when he broke

eventually tired on a pitch that

away again to force a corner, his team capitalised. But there was still time for Dja Ettien to inspire the Africans to one last unavailing rally. It can only get eas-

the Opposition.

ENGLAND 13-5-21: Lucas (Preston): Walkeork (Man Und), Curds (Man Und), Broomes (Black)

Lucis (Man Und), Broomes (Black)

Carraghar (Inerpool), Easton (Warbert), Dyer (Inerpool), Substitutes (Lucison), Substitutes (Lucison), Glackson (Leads) for Easton, hthunghreys (Sheff Wed) for Murphy, 67.

ier tomorrow for England when

the United Arab Emirates, who

were overwhelmed 5-0 by Mex-

ico in the opening game, provide

Athietics

Liz McColgan, Britain's former 10,000 metres world champion, has retired from track running to concentrate on the marathon. The decision means McColean will not attempt to regain her title at the World Championships in Athens in

August.
The track has been part of my life," McColgan said yesterday in Edinburgh, "It's a very hard decision to make not to go there any more but I think my

and I've just got to accept that being a marathon runner, I can't do anything and everything as well.

McColgan leaves the track

The 33-year-old Scot underwent a back operation last week to remove a lump at the base of her spine and felt she would not be fit enough to compete in the World Championship trials in Sheffield at the end of this

McColgan, who won a gold medal in the 10,000m at the 1991 championships in Tokyo.

best prospects and talent for the future lie in marathon running of the Great Caledonian Run on 19 October in which she will 🛫 participate. She will also compete in the Great North Run and Great South Run later this

> "The three races are ideal preparation for the marathon," she said. "I now firmly believe that this is my one and only distance for the future.

> McColgan's next appearance in an international marathon is scheduled for Tokyo on 30 No-

> > TODAY'S

NUMBER

91

The number of years since

baseball's Chicago Cubs, of

the National League, and

Chicago White Sox, of the

American League, had played

each other. When they met

in an inter-league game on Monday right, the Cubs won

WOLVERHAMPTON

2.20: 1. CALCHAS (G Duffield) 7-2; 2. Bermardo Belliotto 4-1; 3. Super Rascal 6-1: 10 ran. 15-8 fav The Thruster, 6, 1½, (Sr. Mark Prescou), Tota: £11.00; £2.10, £2.60, £1.10, DF: £13.00. CSP: £18.79. Tho:

2.56: 1. PETOSKIN (M Wightern) 6-5 fac; 2. Castle Secret 5-1: 3. Mister Aspecto 5-

2. Castle Secret 5-1: 3. Mister Aspecto 5-2. 5 ran. \$nt.hd. 5. (J Pearce). Tote: £2.20: £1.10. £2.70. DF: £3.80. CSF: £7.26. 3.30: 1. GOODWOOD LASS (G Duffield). 7-2: 2. Micola's Princess 5-1: 3. Needwood Nortkin 10-1: 7 ran. 3-1 fav Rassyel, 8, 1. U Duntopl. Tote: £3.80: £2.00. £2.80. DF: £10.00. CSF: £13.52. 4.05: 1. MALIBU MAN (A Daly) 9-2: 2. Menoto 2-1 fav; 3. Napler Star 10-1. 10 ran. 5. shr.hd. (E Wheelet). Tote: £6.90: £3.10. £1.90. £2.40. DF: £22.90. CSP. £15.55. Tircas: £92.72. Tito: £138.90.

EM. 3, 311-70. (E Wheeled, Total 56,90; 53,10; £1,90; £2,40. DF: £2,20. CSF. £15,55; Incast: £92,72. Trio: £138,90. 440: 1. RISKY WHISRY (C Lowther) 7-2; 2. Gifted Behm 11-2; 3. I'm Not Sure 20-1; 8 ran. 6-4 fav Sun in The Momme, Ind. 27h. U Bern). Total: £8,80; £2,30; £1,40; £6,70. DF: £12,10. CSF: £2,155. £1,40; £6,70. DF: £12,10. CSF: £2,155. 7,80yal Routette 10-1; 7 ran. 2-1 far fixathoruk (4th; 1-1). Ind. (B Mechan). Total: £5,30; £10,10, £1,20. DF: £9,10. CSF: £13,00. Placepot: £388,50. Quadpot: £100.60. Place 6: £92,76. Place 8: £46,98.

Three jumpers face disqualifi-

cation after testing positive for the

prohibited substance procaine the

Jockey Club announced yesterday.

The John O'Shea-trained Bell

Staffboy tested positive after win-

8-3*.*

£42.60.

INTERNATIONAL MEETING: Fredericks (Nam) 10.05sec; 2 T (S) 10.09; 3 B Lews (US) 1 L J Abowen (Ken) 3min 33.27(Min) 3-27 70; 3 IUSI 11.62, 200m: 1 M Garriford (Aus): 22.75: 2 C Freemp (Aus): 22.80; 3 Y Leschous (Rus): 23.21. 400m: hundless: 1 A Knoruz (Rus): 55.43:est: 25 Smm; Im 55.78; 3 T Ecolon (Ess): 55.96, 5,000m: 1 A Wayermann (Swu 15:18.51: 2 A Worku (Eth): 15:22.17: 3 K Anderson (Aus): 15:26.40, Javelin: 1 I Hatrestad (No): 65.96m: 2 H Ravasner (Fin): 63.44; 3 M righerg (Fin): 61.36; 3 Knot 1 M Hajam (Fin): 20.56; 2 K You (IUS): 19.55: 3 Y Betonog (IVn): 19.45; Long (Jump: 1 R Neisen (Ent): 65:52; 2 T Vaso: (Hun): 6,62; 3 E Johansson (Swe): 6.53.

Football

Chris Eubank, the former World Boxing Organisation super-midd pion, is interrupting his Middle East tour to fight in England again for the first time in nearly two years. His next contest has been provisionally booked for Man-chester's Nynex arena at the end of July, possibly for the vacant World Boxing Union light-heavyweight title.

SDOT'S PERMISE EVENT.
ISLE OF MAN INTERNATIONAL WEEK! Two-up
10-mile TT (Port Bird): 1 G Longland (Radford
Accountants) and B Taylor (Boursenouth Arrow)
22:14, 2 Mile Kelly and Mark Yelly (Marx RC)
22:45, 3 R Flexcher and I Brand (Blan Varran CC)
23:03.

PREMIER LEAGUE Four Team Champi-

was one of six wild-card entries selected on Tuesday to compete in the Tour de France. It will become only the second American-based outfit to compete in the

23:03.
ROYAL BARK OF SCOTLAND CURWEN CLASE
MEMORIAL HANDICEP (Castistown, 52.4
miles): 1.A Mats (Micby CC) 23th Octon 33sec.
2.I Newski (Neth): 3 C Wittams (Wat): 4 M Beck.
ett (Sytama): 5 R Carbe (W) at some time, 6
8 Twoing (W) + 15sec.

BRITISH SQUAD (World champlouships, Cape Town, 14-19 July): Merc Foli: D McKentie (Scot-land), K Beydood, S Johnson, P Walet (all Sus-ser House). Expect A Polland, G Allen, Q Berninan (all Hawshood), T Cpdman (Wmbleson). Sabre: 1 Williams, J Williams, D Sach, M Fletcher (all Sale Frohich), Women: Foli: L Stra-

TODAY'S FIXTURES

WORLD YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIP Group C lalaysia): Ireland v United

ELITE LEAGUE: laswich v Swindon (7.30).

Don't be

without

this...

caught out

Other sports TERNIS: Notingram Men's Open (Not-ongram); Direct Line Imemational Womens Championships (Eastbourne); Qub Med Qup, and Wimbledon qualifying (Roehampton); Mulberry Classic (Hurlingham).

most exc

while VP day out to see the America for the second

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England v Australia test series

NORED YOUTH CUP (Argenting 3 (Romeo 9, Scalon 42, Riquetine 50) Hungary C, Australa O (Canada 0, Genes F Un-tion Beterul; Meuca 5 (Léingston 26, 55, Can-no 40, Tomes 60, Orner Servacux 71) Unicol Arab Entrates O; Engand 2 (Owen pen 5, Shep-herd 68) Nory Coest 1 (Case 32).

COPA AMERICA (Bolivia): First round, Group A (Cochebernbe): Equator 2 Chile 1;

Arzentina 1 Parastay 1. **Pools dividends** LITTLEWOODS: Trable charge: 24gts £17,968.70, 23 £442.30, 22 £13.60, 21 £12.15. Half-time: 21gts £1.1.70 95. 4 draws £13.60, 30 horouts £3.95. 8 aways £1.70.

FinONS: Truble change: 24pts £11,722.85. pts £257.20. 22pts £18.00 ETTERS: Treble chance: 24pts £1.0.0 22 £32.90, 22 £1.70, 21 65p. Three draws £4.10. Eight homes £1 30. Sh: arrays £2.00. SRITERS: Treble chance: 23pts £3-5, 22pts £3.50. Four draws £33.30. Eight homes 65p. Sh: arrays £1 80

The codess fours, featuring the Olympic gold medallists Steven Redgrave and Matthew Pinsent, spearfread Britain's team for the second World Cup Regatta in Paris this weekend. James Cracknell and Tim Foster complete the foursome. In the women's squad, the quadruple scull used in Murich has been replaced with a coxiess pair of Dot Blackie and Cath Bishop and a double scuil of Minam Batteri and Gillan Lindsay.

SPORTING DIGEST

Rugby Union Paul Holford, the former England A wing has become the latest casualty of the upheaval at Gloucester. The 27-year-old has been reteased by Richard Hill, the

AL-AHRAM INTERNATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP (Calro) Finals: Merc P Nicol (Scot Ist) Jarcher (Nan (Pa.) 12-15 15-14 15-12 15-11 Womens S Fitz-Genid (Aus) tr M Martin (Aus) 9-3 9-3 9-

An arbitration panel has reinstated the American swimmer Jessica Foschi, rul-

ing that her two-year suspension for alleged drug use was too long. The Court of Arbitration for Sport said Foschi was guilty of a doping offence and imposed a retroactive six-month suspension from 4 August 1995, to 3 February 1996. Foschi has already served that time and is eligible to resume compe-tition immediately.

Sham show

gets official

approval

Bosra Sham's spectacular Roy-

al Ascot victory on Tuesday has left her challenging Helis-

sio as officially the best middledistance horse in Europe, it was

Henry Cecil declared that

Bosra Sham was the best he had

trained after she romped to an

eight-length triumph in the

Prince of Wales's Stakes, a view

backed yesterday by the hand-

revealed yesterday.

ot M Mirme (Bull 6-4 3-6 6-3; G Doyle (Aus) of K Lillyett (SA 7-6 6-4, Second rounds P Cash dus) in S Campbel (US) 4-6 6-2 11-9; S Huet (Fr) fix C Haggard (SA) 6-2 1-6 6-4; L Heneau (Mes) bit G Ting (Rom 7-6 6-1). M Hell (Aus) bit R Koeng (SA) 6-3 4-6 6-4; B Elmood (Aus) bit I Ketola (Fr) 1-6 7-6 7-5; M Maclagan (GB) bit F Fordarg (Fr) 7-6 6-2; M Bhupathi (Ind) bit N Escude (Fr) 6-4 6-2; M Bhupathi (Ind) bit N Escude (Fr) 6-4 6-2; A Clement (Fr) bit P Luai (C Reps 6-4 6-4; C Van Garssen (Bel) bit S Serphe (US) 6-4 6-1; C Van Garssen (Bel) bit S Serphe (US) 6-4 6-1; C Van Garssen (Bel) bit S Serphe (US) 6-4 6-1; C Van Garssen (Bel) bit S Serphe (US) 6-4 6-1; C Van Garssen (Bel) bit S Serphe (US) 6-4 6-1; C Facht (Is) bit A Nomani (Bel) 6-4 6-4; E Erich (Is) bit N Nomani (Bel) 6-4 6-4; E Erich (Is) bit A Rechel (US) 6-7 7-6 6-5; P Bouteyer (Fr) bit E Ran (Is) 6-2 6-1; D Rai (C Rep) bit R Detgado (Par) 3-6 6-2 6-3. Women's singles, first round: A Hermer (Lin) Women's singles, first round: A Kremer (Lin bt E Broukhovets (Ukr) 7-5 7-5; K Adams (US

GOING: Standard.

icapper Nigel Grav. Gray, senior handicapper for the British Horseracing Board, has given the filly a revised rating of 133. putting her within 1lb of the 1996 Prix de l'Arc de Triomohe victor, Helissio, Bosra Sham is rated 51b superior to Singspiel, Europe's record money-carner. Wafic Said's filly was put on a mark of 131 in the 1996 International Classifications af-

and Champion Stakes. Gray said: "Bosra Sham was so exciting, it is great to see her in training with the likes of Singspiel and Helissio. It was also great to see Kieren Fallon pushing her out to the line; presumably one of the reasons she is getting all the plaudits today is the distance she put between herself and Alhaarth in second. "She received 11b from Alhaarth who was on 121, so it was a question of how to translate

ter winning the 1,000 Guineas

going too far." John Gosden has booked Dominique Boeuf to ride his 1995 Derby second, Tamure, in the Group Three La Coupe over a mile and a quarter at Longchamp today.

the eight lengths. In the cir-

cumstances. I called it 13th, To

make it many more would be

SOUTHWELL

2.20 Socket Set 2.55 Cham pagne Warrior 3.30 Sipowitz 4.05 Stolen Kiss 4.40 Ring The Chief 5.15 Manabar

STALLS: If a nutside, rest a market

CHOS O CAR FARRETTM.
ELINEERED FIRST TIME: Bow Peop (23): Augus Recott 270; Three For A Pound (11): Rustle Song (1 ii): Mercmy (5 7): WENNERS IN LAST SEVEN DATE: Note: LONG-OISTANCE RUNNERS; Austral Indiana. uder (4 10) & Bed Time (4 10) sem 20)

54 BOW PEEP 84 L Charmock 15 00 CINDER HILLS 84 T Jucon

py Days Again, Jen's in The Know, Gargnous, 10-1 Opopusi, 14-1 Societ Set, 16-1 Others

- 8 deci

STALLS: of - milede, red - mede DRAW ADVANTAGE: None.

Filtre and surface: left-hand course, Wings is on W of Newark Bedieson Jun ton adjourn course ADMISSION: Club 512: Tartestalls 50 (CAP Diamond Unit 51) CAR PARE: Free.

2.20 MAIDEN AUCTION FILLIES

Stakes £3,300 2y0 5f 2 MBSS PUCE 84 G Defined 4 00 JENS INTREMOW8? Mode Herests 8

2.55 CLAIMING STAKES £3.300 1m 3f

222: ANYAR REEM 69 H. 102 CHAMPACHE WARROOK (C) 490. 100 SAFA DANCER 4 3 11 . L Newton 8 00 MYSTICAL ISLAND 38 10 A Whylen CD 5

Champagne Werner, 5-2 Rayal ste Fixture, 8-1 Bold Hobit, 16-1

306 KUSTOM KIT KLASSIC 8 3 _K Sked (5) 5

3.30 HANDICAP £3,300 3YO 1m 4f

4.05 LIMITED STAKES £3,300 6f

HANDICAP £2,875 7f

11 Of RING THE CHEF (CD) 584 G Harmon 3

- 15 declared -

5.15 HANDICAP £4,025 1m

I 200 RACINE BRENDA (C) (D) 6 10 0

500 MATAMADETH (CD) 3 9 0 J Favoring 12 511 SLEVENMON (CD) 4 B 11 J Quan 10 516 MENTURY (CD) 4 8 6..... 6 Dufficir 3 8

- 12 declared BETTING: 5-2 februile The Johns, 4-1 Silventarian 5-1 Matahadath, 7-1 Martary, Singloyalmyappa 10-1 Holpers Hal, In Good Fatch, 14-1 others

46-3; M Rochta (Ger) bt E Tatorious (Mri 6-2 6-3; M Schnitzer (Ger) bt P Gaspar (Hun) 7-6 4-86-4, Second round: L Gularia (II) bt L La-timer (GB) 7-54-56-3; S Pischile (Aus) bt N Valdyonsham (Ind) 3-6-46-3; N Feber (Bel) bt Y Hosoki (Jopani 6-4-6-2.

by Y Hosola (Japani 6-4 6-2.

DARGET LINE INSURANCE WOMEN'S RE-TERRATIONAL (Eastboarms): Singles, second round: A Sanches Vicano (Spi bit Y Giss (Aus) 7-5 6-0; I Navotna (Cr. Rep) bit Y Basula (In-don) 7-5 6-4; B Schutz-McCarthy (Neth) bit S Sanca (U.4-6-6-1-6-2; I Spince) (Romit bit A Sobol (Fr) 6-4 6-3; N Toustat (Fr) bit Y Williams; (US) 9-3 5-7 6-1; N Zereana (Belai bit Major) (Cros) 6-2 7-5; A Sugvam (Japani bit X Po (US) 6-3 6-1; M Soles (US) bit N Sanomatus (Japani) 6-2 7-5.

2 (-5.

NOTINGHAM MEN'S OPEN Shapes, first round: A O'Bhen (US) by L Pous (Fr) 6-4 6-3; G Rusodski (GB) bt G Rusoten (Br) (-1, 7-5, Socond Yound: N Yusen (Shoris) by 8 Black (2m) 7-5 6-3; S Draper (Aus) bt A Vones (Romi 6-3

1 330 BOLD ARISTOCRAT (CO) 695 ..

6 600 AL REET (D) 6 8 13 . Y Swed (S) 2 7 DO, ITSINTHEPOST (D) 48 13 8. 0:02 NEWINGTON BUTTS (0) 7:8 13 _

SETTING: 2-1 Stolen Kiss, 3-1 Reienhapost, 7-2 Non Majuntic, 4-1 Bold Anatocrat, 10-1 Docpty Valo, 14-1 Amesome Vecture, 18-1 Keston Pond, 25-1 others

L 620 ENSTREAGH (C) 8 0 In Des Watson (S) 6 2 500 FIRST COLD (CD) 806 . T Sides 10 3 210 ALM'S RELATIVE (C) 300. 4 0-00 MAGE MELODY 4 8 13 S Righter 11 5 604 ROCKY WATERS (D) 8 8 10

BETTING: 3-1 Soviet Lady, 9-2 Julia's Relative

1 -200 MOLDERS HELL 5 94 .- A Whelm (3) 8 005 IN GOOD FAITH (0) 59 1 -R Phoses (5)

MULBERRY CLASSIC (Hurtingham); P Rafter (Aus) or A Richardson (GB) 4-6-6-4 7-5. MENEKEN TROPHY (Rosmalen, Netts) Men's singles, first round; L Paes (Inch bt, N Julio (Swe)

2 051 HOH MAJESTIC (CDI 4 95

9 042 STOLEN KISS 5 8 13 8 Deffield 4 8 -. Charnock 10 8 - 10 doctored -

4.40 APPRENTICES SELLING

13 004 SPANISH STRIPPER 5 7 10 5 Carson 7 140-01 PUSTIC SONO 4 7 10 ... P Bradby 9 8 15 ORN ARRASAS LADY 7 7 10 J Forde 15

Spanish Stripper, 11-2 Rocky Waters, Ring The Chief, 7-1 Astral Imader, 8-1 First Gold, 10-1

stragges, first round: Li Paes (rid) is N luito (Swe) 6-7-6-3-6-4; R krajock (Neth) bx P Haarhus (Neth) -7-7-6; M Darmi (C2 Rep) is M Rossis (Neth) -7-7-6; M Darmi (C2 Rep) is M Rossis (Swit) 6-17-6: G Radus, (Fr) is V Voltchion (Rus) -7-5-6-3. Second round: F Wither (Neth) M Gustafason (Swe) -7-6-7-6; J Boorleman (Swe) 17-6-7-6; J Boorleman (Swe) 17-6-6-1; M Ornean's singles, first round: D van Roosa (Ref) bt L Wild (US) -7-6-6-2; S (Kenna) (C2 Rep) bt D Chladhous (C2 Rep) 17-6-6-4; B Rottner (Ger) bt A Olsta (Pol) 6-0-6-3; F Labat (Arg) 18 N van Lottum (Fr) -7-6-6-4; B Cartison (Swe) bt C Lorren's Valero (Sp) 6-3-3-6-7-5; Second round: A Huber (Ger) bt Neurona (C2 Rep) 17-7-5; N Habsudona (Slovals) bt F Labat (Arg) 7-7-7-5; N Habsudona (Slovals) bt F Labat (Arg) 7-9-7-5; N Habsudona (Slovals) bt N M Maleeva (Bul) 6-4-7-5; D van Roosa (Bel) bt M Roogen (Neth) 2-6-8-3-6-4; B Ritter (Ger) bt R Dragomir (Rom) 6-1-2-0 ret A Cartsson (Swe) bt F Lubaria (It) 6-3-7-5; M Pierce (Fr) bt S Pithotski (Fr) 6-3-7-5.

RACING RESULTS **ROYAL ASCOT** 2.30: 1. AMONG MEN (M J Kinane) 4-1, lax; 2. Nahal B-1; 3. Hombeam 66-1, 20 ran. V., 2/s. (M Stoute, Newmaniel). Total: £4.90: £1.20, £1.70, £11.10, Dual Forecast:

17-30. CSF: 215-35. Top: 1270. 70.Non Run-ners: Well Warmed & Wolf Mountain. 3.05: 1. NADWAH IR Hills: 10-1: 2. Crasse Mestal 50-1: 3. Daumting Lady 4-1. 18 ran. 7-A fay Heeremand: (5th: 3th-hd. 3. (P.Wal-wyn, Lamboum) Tote: £11.30: £3.00, £10.10, £1.30. OF: £1.364.40, CSF: £409.44. Inc. £524.30, After a stewards in-outly, the result storu.

£7.50. CSF: £16.58. Too: £270.70 Non But

quiry, the result stood.
3.45: 1. REBECCA SHARP IM Hits! 25-1: 2. Ocean Ridge 16: 1.3. Sleepytime 5-6 for. 6 rad. 1., 2. IG Wragf, Newmarkett. Tote: £14.70: £3.50. £4.20. DF: £72.10.

CSF 1274.12.
4.20: 1. RED ROBBO 10 Pesiert 16-1: 2.
Crown Court 12-1: 3. Cadeaux Tryst 33.
1. 4. Dencing Image 9-1: far 32 ran. ½.
½. IR Akehurs. Epstml. Totae 126: 10: 55-20.
12-90. E8.10. £1.30. DF: 175-4-80. CSF:
1341.89. Incas: £5,689.78 Tro. £6,083.20
3: 2. Three Cheers 8-1: 3. Book At Bedtime 12-1: 11 ran. 4-1 fav Public Purse 15th).
rk. 2. (P Cole. Whatcomber Totae £6,00:
12-10. £1.70. £3.30. DF £17.60. CSF:
126; 27. Tro: £90.70. NR Doorado.
5-30: 1. ZARALASKA PAF Eddery 8-1: 2.
Nabhaam 14-1: 3. Willie Conquer 14-1: 6. Nabhaam 14-1: 3. Willie Conquer 14-1: 4. Mazurek 13-2: 19 ren. 6-1 fov Humouriess 16th). 21-1 (Committee Name 1998) 16th). 27, 1. 1. Currain, Neumannes, 16th). 27, 1. 1. Currain, Neumannes). Tota: 18.00; £1.90. £4.50. £4.00. £1.90. DF: £123.90. CSF. £95.98. Treast: £1.430.99. The: £953.80. NR: Whitechapel. Jackpot: nor won (pool of £86.261.65 carned forward to Ascot (pody).

Placepot: £4,566.30. Quadpot: £789.60. Place 6; £6,980.70. Place 5; £2556.17. HAMILTON 2.10: 1. NATVASHA (P Fessey) 10-1; 2. Robbo 7-1: 3. Bisebell Miss 7-1: 5 ran. 2-5 fav ledi Krugel (4th), ni, ni, U Berry, Cockerhalti. Toder: £7-80; £4.50, £2.10. DF; £14.10. CSF: £59.32.

E14.10. CSF: £59.32.

2.45: 1. PRINCIPAL BOY (Dele Glason) 52 tav. 2. One Life To Live 1.1: 1: 3. Leff The
Lucky 100-30. 8 ran. Nr. 4, 11 Etherngton,
Mallon). Tote: £2.80: £1.10. £9.60. £1.10.
DF: £28.10. CSF: £34.54. Treast: £106.52.
Tho: £30.40. NR: Fortedis Princo.
3.20: 1. £1£MBROOK (P Fessel) 5-4 fav.
2. Patricia Cilve 5-2: 3. Mighty Shre 3-1.
4 ran. 3. 1. U Bory, Cockerham). Tote: £1.60.
UF: £2.60. CSF: £3.83.
3.55: 1. PALACEGATE JACK (T E Durcan)
11.8 for: 2. Donna's Dancer 9-4; 3. Lead-

3.50; L. PRIALEMAN I. MARK II E DURSH)
11.8 lbr. 2. Donna's Dence 9.4; 3. Leading Priocess 1. 1. 5 ran. 3½, 1½, 1½, U Berry,
Codestam). Totas £2.00; £1.30, £1.10. Dr.
£1.90. CS; £3.69.
4.20-1. SHETED WEST-COUNT. (M. 20-1.) £1.90. CSF: £3.69.
4.30: 1. MISTER WESTSGUND (N Noneth) 14-1: 2. Nebbrel Key 7-4 fbr; 3. Suedone 20-1. 9 ram. 17., 9., Miss L Percit, Ayr. Tobe: £10.60: £1.30, £1.30, £5.80. DF: £9.70. CSF: £34.84. Incast: £463.10. Inc. £35.00

5.05: 1. HASTA LA VISTA (G PONIO) 11.

ning at Uttoxeter on 8 February. Stable-companion Reluckino also failed a drug test following a race at Catterick on 25 February (in which he was pulled up) as did Bob Buckler's Golden Opal (second) at Fontwell on 17 February. The cases will be investigated by the Jock-cy Club's disciplinary committee. * THE INDEPENDENT

RACING SERVICES $0891\ 261 +$ LIVE COMMENTARIES LESSES ROYAL ASCOT ALL COURSES RISULIS 0891 261 970

5.05: 1. HASTA LA VISTA (G PDIon) 11-2: 2. Tribby 8-1; 3. Tissue of Lies 6-1. 9 ran, 7-4 fav Golden Hadeer (6th). 1½, 2½, (M W Easterby, Shenti Humon, Tother £8.00; 12:80, £4.40, £1.10. UP: £17.20. CSP: £43.51. Incast: £246.62. Tno: £43.50. Placepot: £264.10. Quadpot: £16.80. Place 6: £136.77. Place 5: £16.84. كانا من الاصل

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SELECT STREET . (51.00) P. T. W. Lan **500**. 医含于安全

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10 PORFOLE STAKES IN - 540,000 added 240 341

MPON to Miss Riviera Rose 2.43 Oct 135 Boster 4.30 Et prose September Carbuston

MASHAM NEDAM ALCRES CLASS E SAIDS MARKET

ROYAL ASCOT: A long-odds filly cashes in on a Guineas turn-around ahead of today's fascinating showpiece on Ladies' Day

Sharp form reversal rewards faith

GREG WOOD

1 to rest

A little under 19 lengths separated Sleepytime, the winner, and Rebecca Sharp in the 1,000 Guineas at Newmarket in May, but the Coronation Stakes here vesterday proved that a month and a half can be a long time on the turf. It was a reminder, too, that there is no such thing as a racing certainty, as Rebecca Sharp improved by 21 lengths on her Classic form, to beat Ocean Ridge and Sleepytime, the 5-6 favourite, to win the most valu-

able race of the day at 25-1. At first sight, this was a disastrous result for form-book publishers, and a magnificent one for the pedlars of such alternative gambling mediums as bingo and the football pools. The lesson to be learned, though, is that the bare form, even of a race of such quality as the 1,000 Guineas, rarely tells the whole story. Fillies in particular take time to find their form as three-year-olds, and the Newmarket Classic can only identify which is the the best of them at a very early stage of the he finished in front, since he campaign. On yesterday's evidence. Sleepytime's predomi-

nance has already run its course. Nor was Rebecca Sharp's victory entirely unexpected, far side where the fast horses with at least one punter winning £10,000 for a £300 bet. Geoff Wragg, her trainer, has long estly fancied Tregaron more considered the filly among the

best in his yard. "It's difficult to know what to do when you've won a maiden but finished third-last in the 1,000 Guineas," Anthony Op-penheimer, her owner, said. "It requires a tremendous act of faith. Before this race, Geoff and I decided to have a bash and, if she didn't perform, it was time for handicaps at Carlisle. But it wasn't hard to give her another chance, and she'd been pleasing Geoff very much recently."

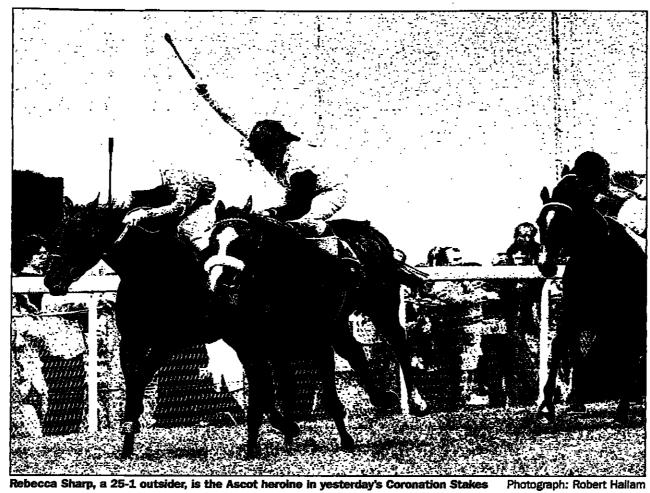
The racegoers of Carlisle will no doubt be disappointed, but Cumbria is now unlikely to feature in Rebecca's Sharp's schedule. The Falmouth Stakes at Newmarket's July meeting should be her next start, while a return to Group One company will now hold no fears.

If the result of the Coronation Stakes was a poor one for punters - and bets on Sleepytime included one of £30,000 to win £25,000 - some at least were rewarded in the Royal Hunt Cup, which can make or break a backer's week all by itself. Inevitably, several well-planned gambles went astray, including a run on Reg Akehurst's Tregaron, but the man who wins big handicaps the way Henry Cecil wins Classics still found his way to the winner's enclosure. Red Robbo, apparently Akehurst's second-string yesterday, was still backed from 33-1 down to 16-1, and Olivier Peslier's late thrust past Crown Court on the stand rail rewarded plenty of shrewd investments.

It was as well for Peslier that would otherwise have been found guilty of wilful disobedience. "I had agreed with Olivi-er that he should go over to the were," Akehurst said, "but fortunately he ignored me. I hontoday, and if you saw them both working, so would you."

French jockeys rarely make much impression on British backers, but Peslier is gathering a significant following, and is now the 9-4 second-favourite to end the meeting as top rider. Frankie Dettori is the 5-4 favourite even though he failed to add to his total yesterday and will be suspended on Friday.

Michael Kinane, who has won the trophy for the last three years, is a 16-1 chance, but



he did at least register his first win of the week, on Among Men in the Jersey Stakes. The son of Zilzal, who won the same race on the way to even

better things, is improving swiftly, and might yet compensate Kinane, Michael Stoute and Michael Tabor, his owner, for their bitter disappointment with Entrepreneur in the Derby.

The speed with which anyone's fortunes can change was quickly apparent, though, as pension.

Heeremandi, representing Tabor in the Oueen Mary Stakes started favourite but finished unplaced behind Nadwah, Peter Walwyn's first Royal Ascot winner since 1990.

"The race looked a bit like the M25 on a Friday night," Walwyn said, referring to the erratic course plotted by the aptly named Crazee Mental inside the final furlong, which earned John Carroll a two-day sus-

	GOLD C	UP - 1	O-YEAR	R-TALE	
and the second second	1987	86 89	90 91	92 98 94	25 78
Fate of the favor	**********				
Witnes's place in	betting: 3_	. 1 , 1 , 5	0 - 0 -	4: 3 0	2 2
Starting prices:	61	72-E11	f4 1 2H 1 =	4 13-2 20	. 545 34
Profit or loss to 1	I state: Fee	11	أستناف ف	Angustina -E	285
Percentage of wi	mers placed	Let, 2mf or	Seil in met	nce: 90%	
Shortest priced a	ference States	0 8 11 M98			
Langerit priced w	apmeir: Indian C	upen 25 /£ ((1994)	37 ³ 7 ³ 44	
Top trainer: Lord	iumanenco	rates Queen	(1991) Di	nn) mas (1992	8 1993)
Top Jockeye: R 8	a – Ashe (19	913). Adžadža	n Heighis (2	90 ==	
L De	tion - Dawn T	àps (1992 &	1993		

Celeric holds the whip hand in Gold Cup

RICHARD EDMONDSON

While December is bad turkey month, ostriches meet their Waterloo in the run up to Royal Ascot. Inside news from our fashion department is that spectating may be hampered today by a forest of tall feathers. Outgeous millinery is the tradition for Ladies' Day, which, for the purist minority is also made notable by a race called the Gold Cup. Founded in 1807, the 2m 4f contest is notionally the centrepiece of the festival, though the times when it was a natural stopping-off point for a Derby winner finished at about the

same time the Blitz started. These days, the Gold Cup is a peculiarity in that few horses are ever tried over its staminadrawing distance. This explains why many beasts have won it more than once. In recent years Le Moss. Ardross and Drum Taps have captured the event in consecutive seasons, and today Double Trigger and Classic Cliche attempt a second success. Their chances are slightly compromised as both finished last on their seasonal reappearances.

Double Trigger has had some organ-threatening assignments and it may be that his best days are in the form book. Classic Cliche is easier to forgive as his failure at York, when he was a long way behind Celeric, came when Godolphin's horses were running atrociously.

Celeric himself was repelled by Persian Punch at Sandown iust over three weeks ago, when the winner received what jockeys call a forceful ride and horses may

3.45: An in-form Classic Clicke

would attract confidence behind his

attempt to repeat last year's victo-

ry. But he flopped badly at York on his seasonal reappearance last month and there must be a risk that

Royal Ascot - 3.45

Persian Punch returned with signs of battle on his chassis, but Ray Cochrane was absolved as trainer David Elsworth had failed to inform the rider of his horse's hypersensitive skin. This technical nicety may have been lost on Persian Punch. The chestnut should still run well however, though the revised weights suggest Celeric (next best 3.45) can continue his

march through the grades. The Ribblesdale, as usual, is dominated in the market by fil-

> RICHARD EDMONDSON NAP: Lucayan Prince (Royal Ascot 4.20) NB: Celeric (Royal Ascot 3.45)

lies who have come on from the Oaks. But if you are tempted to support Crown Of Light or Yashmak remember that Epsom horses have a nasty habit of turning turtle here and a more rewarding option may be Maid Of Camelot (2.30).

Hopping Higgins's connections will ensure he is a short price for the Norfolk Stakes and that may mean the value rests with Pool Music (3.05), whose Sandown defeat of Nadwah looks good after that filly won the Queen Mary yesterday.

It would be wrong to call the Cork And Orrery impossible because one runner has to win, but 25 horses storming up the straight lacks immediate punting appeal. The pace may come from those drawn middle to high, and the winner may be one coming fast from behind in that sector. Such a description fits

2.30 Crown Of Light 4.20 Monaassii 4.55 Wales (nb) 3.05 Arawak Cay 3.45 Jiyush 5.30 HENLEY (nap)

GOING: Good to Firm.

GOING: Good to Firm.

STALLS: Straight course — stands side; round course — moide.

DRAW ADVANTAGE: Low may be best in 4.20.

Bight-hand course with itesting uphili finish.

Course is near junction of A320 and A330. Access from M3 (June 3) and M4 (June 6).

Helicopter-landing facility at course (Heathrow 15m), Railway station (service from London, Waterloo) adjoins course. ADMISSION: Royal enclosure — unavailable; Grandstand & Paddock sold out; Silver Ring 57; Heath 52; CAR PARE: No 9 17.

LEADING TRAINERS WITH EUINNERS: J Dunalop — 25 winners from 139 runners gives a success ratio of 18.7% and a profit to a 51-level stake of 574.96; J Gooden — 18 winners, 113 runners, 15.9%, —513.56; H Cecil — 16 winners, 33 runners, 19.7%, +525.92; M Stoute — 16 winners, 145 runners, 11.3%, -537.42.

ELEADING JOCEETS: L Dettori — 32 winners, 205 rides, 16.6%, +51.43; Pat Bddery — 30 winners, 235 rides, 12.9%, -542.83; T Quina — 20 winners, 181 rides, 14.4%, +59.21; J Reid — 25 winners, 205 rides, 12.7%, -59.80.

BLINKERED FIEST TIME: Double Trigger (3.46).

WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: Techurrow (4.20) won at York on Priday; Chro's Pearl (6.30) won at Goodwood on Tourstay.

Pearl (5.30) was at Goodwood on Thursday.

LONG-DISTANCE EUNDRES (within GB): Banbary (5.30) has been sent 25C miles by
JWWaits from Richmond, North Yorkshire; Double Eclipse (3.45) & Double Trigger (3.45)
sent 243 miles by M Johnston from Middleham, North Yorkshire; Southerly Whad (5.30) sent
236 miles by Mrs J Ramsden from Sandhutton, North Yorkshire.

2.30 RIBBLESDALE STAKES (GROUP 2) (CLASS A) 280,000 3YO filles 1m 4f Pen Value £69,568
1 2-21 AKONETO (30) (3) (4) Aga Khari) J On (4) 8 8
2 0-2604 ALCALALI (USA) (16) (9F) (Lews H Norts) P Yellowsy 8 8
2 0-2014 MISELET (USA) (LO) for) (LESS) 11 Teles 0.00
3 1413 CROWN OF LIGHT (13) (Shekh Mohammed) M Stoute 88
4 611 MAD OF CAMELOT (29) (A E Opperhement R Charleon 8.8
I - 44 o depreso aural (46 Obordon II Moldrum) W R Hem 88
6 35-10 SMADAN (USA) (13) (GOOD/IN) S ON SURVING 8
7 3-2223 SEBLINE BENLITY (USA) (12) (H De l'oussionsid 1 Briger (N) 8 8 M 1 Kinsne 5 B. 98
In the contract of the contrac
9 22-014 YASHAM (USA) (1.3) (K ADDLERY II CERI C C
- y pecareu
SETTING: 7-4 Crown Of Light, 5-2 Yeshmek, 7-1 Maid Of Camelot, 8-1 Alderlyn, Serayir, Yempfing
12.1 Charles 12.1 Charles 25.1 Subfine Beauty, 100-1 ACCES
1996: Tulion 8 8 S Guntet 15-2 (A Fabre, Fr) drawn (10) 10 ran
FORM GUIDE

1996: Tuipa 8 8 S Guttot 15-2 (A Fabra, Fri drawn (Lut Ju an POPM GUIPPE
There is a chance of rain and every drop will help Vandamest, who ran fourth to her stable-mate. Rearns of Verse, in the Osis, despite the Epsom going being fast enough for her. Henry Copi has abundant tiches in the filter's department and Vashmak, the sesy winner of a 10-furliong Listed race (good to soft) at Newbury in April with Tempeting Prospect nine lengths back, seems sure to go close. Just ahead of her in the Osis was CROWN OF LIGHT, whose trainer, Michael Stoute, has a fine record with three-year-old filter. Crown Of Light finished well at Epsom and had shown her appreciation of some cut underfoot when lending the Lingfield Osis that from Book At Bettime. She got off to a low-key start text year when winning a Laicester manden, but even that from has taken on a reasonable look with the numer-up, cro's Pearl, on a handrage text-trick. John Oxis due a change of tuck with the numer-up, cro's Pearl, on a handrage text-trick. John Oxis due a change of tuck in this race after sadding but of the last three numers-up and Aladamya has a useful pedigete even if her form does not have the substance of some others. She got off the mark in a 12-furlong Fearyhouse maken lest month on her third start, and should improve, but the form of that race has taken a lew too many knocks. Maild Of Causelot is interesting effect the pace, albeit a modest one until half-way, suggests that she is considered that she set the pace, albeit a modest of curred half-way, suggests that she is considered that she set the pace, albeit a modest of curred half-way, suggests that she is considered that she set the pace, albeit a modest of curred half-way, suggests that she is considered that she set the pace, albeit a modest of curred half-way, together that fourth at Newhandle Tettenham Corner. She had previously besten Crown Of Light into fourth at Newhandle Tettenham Corner. She had previously besten Crown Of Light into fourth at sand market but the Stoute lift of th

- 1	Strong tag at the teach one tag
	3.05 NORFOLK STAKES (GROUP 3) (CLASS A) 540,000 added 2YO 5f Penalty Value £25,240
	4 -

to Boy Tipsy Creek 8 12 W Ryan 7-2 fav (B Harbury) drawn (11) 10 ran FORM GUIDE POOL MUSIC will have learned plenty from his Salisbury and he can beat Hopping Higgins, but those calculations look dodgy now that Harbour Mester has won the Coveritry Stakes. Harbour Master, only seventh to Golden Mirage at the Curragh, looked a different horse in blinkers on Tuesday and the numer-up in that Curragh race was his stable-mate Hopping Higgins who stayed on well and might elso have more to offer bearing in mind that Aiden O'Brien has the Midas touch. Rejected, a stablemate of Pool Music, needed his first run at Leocaster but came out to win a five-runner Haydock making by four lengths from Sharp Cracker. Araweek Cay made his debut at Newmarket only eight days ago and, backed to odds-on, quickened away from Unden Heights and Utitle Indian. That was over six furlongs, so it is not easy to judge his chance now over five. Bodygsand was not greatly impressive in beating Out Like Magic over the York six lass time, but his blood count was not right afferwards.

[3.45	GOLD CUP (GROUP 1) (CLASS A) £160,000 added 2m 4f Penalty Value £113,556	BBC1
1	114-31	CAMP DAVID (GER) (26) (D Gabel: A Wonler (Ger) 7 9 2	A Boschart 5 10
.3	21-412	CELERIC (24) (SF) (Christopher Spance) D Morley 5 9 2	Pot Eddery 2 11
3	1120 0	CLASSIC CLICKE (35) (CD) (SP) (Godolphan) 5 bin Surgor 5 9 2	L Dettor 10 11
4	3/111-	DOUBLE BOLIPSE (396) (Middleham Partnership) M Johnston 5 9 2	M Roberts 4 11
5	1215-0	DOUBLE TRIGGER (50) (CD) (SF) (R W Huggers) M Johnston 6 9 2	J Wesser 7 8 11
. 6	04-536	ELECTION DAY 425 Load Weinstock M Serus 5 9 2	Kirame 13 V 9
7	140-42	GREY SHOT (32) JI C Sment Batting 5 9 2	0 Pester 9 10
8	3122-3	MOONAX (42) (Sheith Mohammed) 8 Hirls 6 9 2	Hills 6 119
9	2414-6	NORTONATO (F75 (32) (D) (Potock Sebash) J Lesbordes (Fr) 6.9.2	6 Mossé 8 10
10	041-35	HERON ISLAND (24) (Mis J Magner) P Chargle-Heart 4 9 0	J Reid 11 10
11	100-01	JYUSH (29) (Yamdan Al Maksoum) E Dunico 4 9 0	R Hats 12 10
12	33-011	PERSIAN PUNCH (24) U.C. Smith) D. Elsworth 4.9.0	R Cochrage 3 11
13		SAMERANN (USA) (35) (C) (K M 44 Mustrell) Dunko 49 ()	
בב	3,71074	- consistent front for for the second of 1 property at 2 fr	

BETTHS: 7-2 Persian Punch, 4-1 Celeric, 9-2 Classic Cliche, 7-1 Nouculto, 5-1 Double T 1 Sepresan, 21-1 Double Edipse, 12-1 Grey Shot, 20-1 Jyush, 22-1 Magnax, 25-1 other sac Cliche 4 9 0 M J Kinane 3-1 (S bin Surgor) drawn (7) 7 ran FORM GUIDE

FORM GUIDE

PERSIAN PUNCH strikes as a true Gold Cup type, especially on his runs last summer when doggedy staying on to best Athenry at Newmerket the two clear) in the 14 furlong-plus Bahrain Trophy and when third, keeping on dounly, to Grey Shot in the two-mile Goodwood Cup. He prefaced those runs with a third to Gordi and Athenry here in the Queen's Vase finishing the stronger and going down by only a length and a half. He continues to get better and his best performance came in the Henry II Stokes at Sandown last time when fending off Celeric with Heron Istand a close lifth. Celenc will be denganous of his turn of foot can be conserved, but Persain Punch has so much scope and is so garaine that it is not hald to visualise him being in the top rank of stayes for some time. He acts well on fast ground, but shows plently of knee action and has won in the soft. Blinkers will probably make a possitive difference to the 1995 witner Double Tritister, and he worked well in them at a positive difference to the 1995 winner Double Trigger, and he worked well in them at Pontefract recently. His Doncaster (2m 2f) defeat of Celanc last September shows his worth Portelfract recently, his Donasster (2m 2f) defect of Celenc last September shows his worth when he is on his game, but he was a major disappointment here in April when last behind Orchestra Stalt. Nonomition is a well-fancted French raider but his stone of three wins since 1994 hardly sets the pulse racing. On the other hand, he has run well the three times he as taced an extreme test of starmina and was third to Classic Cliche and Double Tragger nere a year ago on ground faster than he cares for. Wet conduons would make him a popular tancy despite his Longthamp defeat over a shorter trip in the mud last month when Grey Shot was second to Suretarez. Classic Cliche Ropped behind Celenc over 14 furlings at York last month, but that run, as well as a below-per effort in the Arc, may fade into observed to be body an enter Med Corrects undertines his scurity if he is back on song. His second to Pentire in last year's King George underlines his class, but last year's Gold Cup was was not run at such a strong pace as is likely today. Doubble Eclipse edged out Nomanto at Longdreym 13 months ago but has since suffered leg trouble and ites been absent for 396 days.

Selection: PERSIAN PUNCH

•			
1	174		CORK AND ORRERY STAKES (GROUP 3) (CLASS BBC2 A) £50,000 6f Penalty Value £34,850
ŀ	4	-20	A) £50,000 6f Penalty Value £34,850
•			BURDEN OF PROOF (26) (D) (M V O'Brien) C O'Brien (fg 5 9 3
l	1	20-11	SCHOOL OF LANCE TOO TO ME IN A CORD OF THE TAINING TO SHOOL TO SHOOL TO THE
l	2	525-32	LUCAYAN PRINCE (USA) (12) (C) (Luzayan Studi O Luder 4 9 3
•	3	2 1111	MONAASSE (20) (D) (Makeum Al Makeum) E Dunico 6 9 3
	4	610-11	ROYAL APPLAUSE (35) (CD) (Malcourt A) Malcourt) B Hills 4 9 3
	5	533-21	CATCH THE BLIES (17) (Ms H M Kesseney A P O'Brien (In) 5 9 0 C Rocke 21 V 11
ı	6	21110-	INDIAN ROCKET (259) [D] INvali Assyegni J Durlop 3 9 0R Hills 19 10
1	7	3410-5	ALMISHTARAK (12) (D) (H Al-Matane) K Marid 4 8 13
	8	50-520	CAYMAN KAL (34) 6 A N Wight R Harrion 4 8 13 R Highes 18 10
	9	0-6141	CYRANO'S LAD (19) (D) (A) M Foutget) C Dwyer 8 8 13
•	10	00-223	EASY DOLLAR (20) (D) (Busin Gabby Ltd) B Gabby 5 8 13
	11	410-24	INVANDIFIEE (19) (D) (SF) (Exces of Exts.) Panicase) I Baiding 6 S 13. Martin Dayer 23 11
	12	010453	BLISSIAN MILISIC (19) (Severan Heaven Poho) Gay Kelleway 4 8 13
	13	054-11	TEDBURROW (6) (0) (Philip Davies) E Alston 5 8 13 A Culture 15 10
	14	05-432	ATLEACHT (USA) (17) (D) (Ms.) Bolger (H) 5 8 10
	15	n52-3	RALIE DUSTER (USA) (35) (CD) (Godolphin) 5 bin Suroir 4 8 10
	16	12-120	FARTHANA (24) (D) (SF) (A Fourstilly W Limits 4 B 10
	17	215-21	MOMENTE PREMIER (21) (Abropess de Montela) A de Rojer Dupre (Fr) 3 6 10 G Monté 6 11
	18	060-14	ROYALE FIGURAGE (24) (D) (C Pearmen) M Fetherston-Godley 6 8 10 D Holland 5 11
	19	135.93	THEAMO St. IA Christophysia A P O'Sten 6th 4 8 10T Quipe 9 11
	20	.47341	rains anisini rusa) (19) ro) (Sheith Mohammed) L Cumani 3 8 6 6 Stevens 4 10
	21	45 24 4	ret critic FM 1AD (E) (E) (E) (Commo Tobut) P Mooney 3.8 6
	22	215.1	envert state (USA) (R1) (D) (R E Sangaer) P Chapple-Ham 3 8 6
	23	101	Aurea 2001 (2011) (Tone Hysmo and Man Allan) P (Zignole-Huem 3 B 3D J Winds 24 B
	24	00432	CONSTRUCTOR (19) (Dr.A. Heiszine) C Owier 3.8.3
	25	1255.3	MOONSHINE GIRL (12) (Seed Makeum Al Maldount M Stoute 3 & 3 W Ryen 16 10
	4	7037-3	- 25 deciened -
			The State of the S

BETTENC: 6-1 Blue Dester, Blue Golde, Royal Applame, 9-1 Luceyan Prince, 12-1 Catch The Blues, 14-1 Northwe Prenter, Royale Figurine, 16-1 Burden Of Proof, Ferbana, Monacesth, 20-1 others 1996: Atref 3 8 6 W Cerson 12-1 (D Mortey) drawn (2) 17 ran

FORM GUIDE

It could be that the low numbers will have an edge and BLUE GOBLIN and Nombre Premiler are favourably berthed if that proves to be the case. Blue Goblin, ridden by top American Gary Stavens, graduates from handicaps, but proved a cut above Connemant & Co in
useful company at Newmarket lest time and he looks a class symiter in the making. Nombre Premier has kept good company in France, last time having Wazrd King amongst his
vectors when taking a Group Three seven-furiong race at Longshamp last month. Royal
Applicase, within a Covertry here in 1995, looks back to his best and won the Duile
Of York Stakes on the Knevernire last month when Fambase and Blue Duster (sure to be
better for the run) were second and third. Luceyan Prince won the Jersey Stakes here last
year and as smart when he gets the breake, while Burden Of Proof and Monancello will
have a following but may find their penalties prohibitive.

Selection: BLUE GOBLIN

HONE & MANNING CO.	t may mu than parames promiser.	SCHOOL BLUE GOODIN	
4.55 CHESHAM STAKES (Listed) (CLASS A) £35,000 added 2YO 7f Penalty Value £24,054			
	AL PARK (13) (HRH Prince Fahd Salmen) P Cole		
2 11 50004	ANY (123) (M. Tabor) A P O'Bren (tr) 9 ()	C Rocke 1	
3 ALAZA)	N (The Spanish Connection) D Hyde 8 12		
4 52 AMPIL ((USAC (32) (Highclare Thoroughbred Racing) G Lea	#6 8 12 8 Sterens 8	
5 4 CLASSI	C MANOEUNIE (USA) (7) (Peul & Jenny Green)	R Hannon 8 12 Dans C'Nell 4	
6 4 EXBOU	POVES WISH (USA) (32) (A Abduller) B Hills & 12	2 HES 5	
7 Q4 REBALZ	ZA (14) (Brave Maple Partnership) J Eustace & 12		
S SABITS	BE PRAISED (USA) (Mrs Virginis Kraft Payson) (Lode: 8 12 0 Pestier 12	
9 3 WALES	(35) (BF) (HRH Prince Fand Salman) P Cole 8 12	2	
10 1 BALANC	CE THE BOOKS (37) (Mohamed Suball) R Harmo	n 89Pat Edderv 9	
11 1 CAPE V	/ERDI (19) (R E Sangster) P Cheople-Hyam 8.9	Reld 11	
12 2 AND D	ANCER (33) (Timbertal Record Permestral M Cha	arton B 7R Perbasa 7	

- 12 decising -BETTING: 11-8 Cape Verdi, 9-2 Sidemen, 11-2 Balance The Books, 10-1 Cestral Park, 12-1 Amil, Weles, 14-1 Edourse's Wisk, Salets Be Praised, 20-1 Alig Dencer, 25-1 others 1896: Shamidh 2 8 12 R Hills 8-1 (S bin Surger) drawn (4) 12 ron

FORM GUIDE This race is restricted to horses sired by the winner of a race of 10 furiongs or beyond and in CAPE VERTO's case, she is by Caerleon out of a sister of Breeders' Cup Classic winner Arcangues. Starting her off over six furiongs appeared a big test of her precocity but she went into a Newmarket made in 19 days ago with all the sleuths fantening her gallops provess and, strongly backed, she came up tumps with a two-length defeat of Trans Island (winner since) and 10 others. The earn furiong can help her cause. Sideman began over only five furiongs at Leopardistown last month, but was talked of in terms of a Coventry States run nafer bouncing his two opponers). He has since comfortably bestern four mals over the Curragi six and must be a threat. Ballacie The Books also won over only five furiongs on her debut - at York - but the runner-up, Indian Saver, threw away her chance by hanging. Ballacie The Books might need more time, but the trip will suit. Central Park showed planty of greenness on his debut run behind Chips at Kempton but came out to best inferior rhelps wery assity over the Haydock six. A possibility. Paul Cole also runs Walles, who, lite Central Park, is owned by Fahd Salman. Wales was a besten favourite at York first time out and the form has taken a couple of knocks, but plenty of improvement is possible between runs one and two. You can bot that Seiths Be Preliaced, by St Jowte and in the same colours, is a classy sort, but coming here without a previous run must be a disadventage even if the trick has been pulsed off a time or two in recent years.

Selection: CAPE VERDI This race is restricted to horses sired by the winner of a race of 10 furlongs or beyond and

5	.30	KING GEORGE V STAKES (HANDICAP) (CLASS added 3YO 1m 4f Penalty Value £29,440	B) £40,000
1	61212	SUPPLY AND DEMAND (LS) (Action) G L Woore 9 7	T Online 15
2	02-251	GENEROUS GIFT (13) (D) (Malcoum Al Malcoum) E Dunios 9 7	O'Domoboe (3) 16
3	331	BANGURY (USA) (38) (Shekh Mohammed) J W Watts 9 5	Pat Eddary 3
4	65-111	STAR PRECISION (24) (D) (Miss B Swire) G Balding 9.2	S Drovine 20
5	6-1035	MISTER PINK (43) (C W Summer) R Johnson Houston 9 0	Rold 18
8	35-251	PRAIRIE FALCON (24) (D) (Lady Hamson) 8 (46; 8 13	G Stevens 7
7	51-02	690280URG (46) U Duniop J Duniop 8 11	T Sprake 12
8	01-51	HENLEY (USA) (19) (Mrs Virginia Walt Payson) D Loder 8 11	D R McCabe 19
9.		SOUTHERLY WERD (16) (BF) (M / Simmonds) Mrs J Rameden 8 11	
10	210	SALAMAN (26) (K Abdullah) R Charlton 8 11	Peetler 4
11	4-0012	PARTY ROMANCE (USA) (13) (Abdullah Al) B Hanbury 8 10	
12		MEMORESE (USA) (26) (X About 14) H Ceci 8 9	
13		TALINT (22) (Lord Hertington) D Morley 8 9	
14		ZINZARI (FR) (149 (Ecurie Pheros) D Lode: 89	
15		HERREAGE (26) (Highdere Thoroughbred Ragng) J Gosden & 6	
16		CIRCUS PEARL (7) (D) (J H Shennon) M Tomplans 8 5 (4eo	
17	2154-2	MACAME CHROLERY (23) (The Chinney Partnership) J Eustace 8.4	
18		MARADI (19) (0) (As Daphre Regout) M Bell 8 1	
19	02-06	BUSUNDI (43) (R E Sangster) P Chapple Hyam 7 13	N Adems 5
20	0010	BEHIND THE SCENES (13) IR M Cycen C Cycer 7 13	9
		- 20 declared -	

BETTING: 7-1 Southerly Wind, 9-1 Memorine, 10-1 Burbury, Heritage, Selemah, Ster Procision, 12-Healey, Zinzari, 14-1 Generous Gift, Simbourg, Party Romance, Supply And Domand, 16-1 others 1998: Semesan 9-3 T Quart 14-1 U Dunloy I drawn 171-20 mm FUREN GUIDE

TORM GUIDE

CIRO'S PEARL looks weighted to go well here. She was beaten only a head by Crown Of Light in a Lecester maiden (7f) on her second run last year and then she went for the Taxtersalis Breeders Stakes at the Curragh, but found six furiongs too tight in that hot contest. She is out of a staying dam and is doing better this year over middle distances, last time winning a handwap at Goodwood from Nightlank. Healiny stoyed on strongly to wan a 10-furiong handwap at Lingfield but the danger is Southerly Wind, who found the pace inadequate when a length second to Punchinche over 10 furiongs at Ponietrical last time, it was six lengths back to the time and Southerly Wind looked good when winning a mile handled a gamble at Newmarket (10f h loap). Banburry won a Redicar maden list month is tangle-strap fitted) and is getting his act together.

Selection: CIRO'S PEARL

11 32536' KINNBERLEY BOY (JA61) (IX) Mrs M Revoley ? 9 7...

5.05 LEVY BOARD HANDICAP (CLASS D) £4,900 added 3YO 1m 4f 60yds

-00000 STOLEN MUSIC (9) R Barr 4 9 6...

horses may know as a flogging.	LUCAYAN PRINCE (nap 4.20)
ROYAL ASCOT 2.30: CROWN OF LIGHT finished with a late flourish to snatch third place in the Oaks after turning into the Epsom straight at the rear of the field. More positive tactics seem certain this afternoon, which should certainly confirm her superiority over Oaks fourth Yashmak.	HYPERION'S

this five-year-old has not retained 3.05: ARAWAK CAY made a the ability he showed last summer promising debut over a furlong fur-Samraan and JTYUSH are youn ther last week, but looks to have the speed to drop back in trip successfully. Pool Music may be flattered with slight preference for the latter, worth each-way support at 22-1. by his Sandown win where he was favourably drawn.

4.20: MONAASSIR is in the form of his life at the age of six and can confirm Newmarket and Baden Baden superiority over Easy Dollar, even though he meets that rival on unfavourable terms. Royal Applanse, another back in the w groove, is the danger.

ROYAL ASCOT

House C H L T	FIRST SHOW
Peniso Pench 41 41 72 72	
Classic Cliche 7-2 4-1 9-2 9-2	Royal Ascot - 2.30
<u>Delerio 5-1 9-2 41 9-2</u>	Ruya Ascut 230
Double Nigger 81 7-1 8-1 8-1	House CHLT
Samuel 7-1 8-1 9-1 9-1	Cross Of Light 138 94 74 52
Noomits 91 91 7-111-1	<u>Yaskook 52 52 52 114</u>
Grey Shot 124 114 124 114	Maid Of Carrelot 13-2 7-1 7-1 7-1
Double Scipes 12-1 11-1 11-1 14-1	<u>Natariya 7-1 6-1 8-1 7-1</u>
Aprets 201 201 22-1 201	Securit 10-1 13-2 8-1 6-1
Moones 20:1 28:1 22:1 20:1	<u>Rempting Prospect</u> , 11-3. B1 B-1 B-1
Recognitions 20-1 20-1 23-1 25-1	Species 12-1 12-1 12-1 8-1
Berdom Day 28-1 33-1 25-1 25-1	Seldium Beauty 25-1 25-1 25-1 20-1
Camp David 33-1 53-1 33-1 20-1	Acadel 1501 1001 10011001
Each-way a fifth the colds. places 1, 2, 3	Each-way a filth the calls, places 1, 2, 3
C - Cost, H - William Hill, L - Lecturales, T - Total	C - Coal, H - William Hill, L - Ladbrokes, T - Tota
	<u> </u>

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	_
PRIPOR	1
HYPERION 2.10 Miss Riviera Rose 2.45 Deki 3.20 Mouse- hole 3.55 Boater 4.30 Express Gift 5.05 Scar-	3 4 5 6
rots 5.40 Carburton GOING: Good. DRAW ADVANTAGE: None. GOING: Good. DRAW ADVANTAGE: None. STALLS: Straight course - stands side; round course - inside. STALLS: Straight course - stands side; round course - inside. Regin.land course. A sharp track with tight bends. Regin.land course city on BS365. ADMISSION: Club S12; Tai-	βEi so,
STALLS: Straight to an experiment with tight neares. Regin hand course. A sharp brack with tight neares. Regin hand course. A sharp brack with tight neares. Course is E of the city on B63(6), ADMISSION: Club S 12; The crosses is E of the city on B63(6), ADMISSION: Cub S 12; The city of Care Parket Free. ETABLE SET SET THEE: Monarch's Persuit (visored, 5,05), BLINKERED FIRST THEE LAST SEVEN DAYS: Scarrots (5,05) won at WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: Scarrots (5,05) won at Care parket Seven DAYS: Scarrots (5,05) was been seen 4.386.	[

Cartisle on Transitry, Assar-an (0.40) was at Ampanas on Francis LONG-DESTANCE EUNNEES: Assar-En (5.40) has been eset :88 miles by Gay Kelleway from Withcombe, Dorset; Mahrand (4.50) sent 277 miles by Lady Herries from Angenering Park, West Sussex. MASHAM MEDIAN ALICTION MADEN STAKES (CLASS E) £4,025 added 3YO 1m 2f

2.45 C) £6,900 added 270 of 41 ABERNOEM (10) (0) M Dods 9 1 _____ Dule Gibson 5
01 CRUMERIAN CARLISO (9) (0) T Easterby 9 1 _____ L Carroll 3
1 DEG (USA) (25) (0) D Moriey 9 1 _____ L Stack 2
0 SEALED BY FATE (9) I Warmeng'n 8 11 _____ Sealers 1
4 Sealers 1 _____ Sealers 1Sback 2 51 ROYAL DREMM (30) J Berry 8 6 - 9 declared ETTRO: 1.3-8 Deid, 5-2 Royal Dream, 3-1 Aberbeen, 3-2 Comb
s, 25-1 Grand Estata, Senied by Folia

3.20 RACING CHANNEL HANDICAP (CLASS D) £4,900 added 5f

- 14 decisind -- 14 decisind -Yourn weight 7st 10th. Minimum weight Good To Tak 7st Stip, Tubu Sarysh 657 / ED. GETTOKE: 3-1 Insider Trader, 11-2 Monacholo, 7-1 Migh Domain, Theatre Ic., 8-1 Test And A Rolf, Champast, Time To Tanga, Kaler, 18-1, others Ic., 8-1 Test And A Rolf, Champast, Time To Tanga, Kaler, 18-1, others

3.55 R L DAVISON & TORCH MOTOR POLICIES HANDICAP (CLASS C) £8,000 added 3YO 1m 104-10 RAWAT (44) BHE 97.... ___ID & matth 451 2 234010 PLAN FOR PROFIT (13) M Johnston 9 1 _____ B Doyle 14 61-02 VANDSHING TRICK (1354) (10) (187) H Cecil 9 0 __A McGleon 8 02:100 JAY-OMESTHOS (35) R Windler 8 12 _____ E Partide (5) 255-36 SAMSCING SPIET (33) E Witymes 8 11 ____ B Hind 7 32201 MARAUD (234) J Spearing 8 10 . 3-1423 BOATER (15) (0) D Morley 8 9....

006312 JACK FLUSH (21) (0) (BF) B Romwell 8 1. 122-00 GIPSY PROMCESS (22) M W Excerby 7 13...... Date Sibson 5 - 15 Sectored -- 15 Sectored -BETTONG: 3-1 Green Power, 6-1 Wathbot Hashman, 13-2 Vanishing Tric 7-1 Jack Flush, 8-1 Boater, 12-1 Hawati, Greenmany Ray, 14-1 others

4.30 BEALMONTS DERBY DAMAGE IN 46 60 yes 520216 SUMMERHALL SPECIAL (12) (00) D Barker 6 11 7Miss E Remaden 2

66411 SCHROTS (7) (0) S C Williams 8 10 (564 ______) F Egen 7 56-063 MONARCH'S PURSUIT (20) T Excelly 7 10 ___ P Feetery (3) 8 Y -7 dec Minimum weight. 7st 10th. Minimum weight: Marzenth's Passait 6st 7th. BETTING: 9-4 Scannots, 3-1 Stalde Controls Buy, 4-1 Heart Of Gold, 5-1 Viced Charger, 8-1 Mederch's Purroll, 10-1 Supreme Sound, 14-1 Tei Tei 5.40 BEDALE LIMITED STAKES (CLASS E) £4,025 added 1m 2f -15021 ANAI-RU (6) (0) Go, Hollowy 4 9 1 000212 CARBURTON (16) (0) (09)) Glover 4 8 13 024102 GOLDEN THUNDERBOLT (14) N Trivier 4 8 13 16-025 FLORENTINO (22) (0) (8F) B Hit; 4 8 11 ___ J D Smith (3) 5 500 NR NIONTAGUE (34) T Dornelly 5 8 11 ___ J Persey (3) 7 /0000 SOME HORSE (272) M Meagher 4 8 11 ___ J Carroll 3 002-30 TOUROUSE REVIEWS (13) J Persey 7 8 11 ___ C Tengton (3) 8 600 SET A LEFE (28) J O'Reity 4 8 8 ___ J O'Reity 4 8 ____ J O'Reity 4 8 _____ J O'Reity 4 8 _____

BETTING: 2-1 Carburton, 3-1 Assis-Ku, 7-2 Florentino, 4-1 Golden Tim

When Montgomerie's lead slipped away he revealed again the petulance that may well prevent him from winning a major

A complaint put forward frequently by sports performers is that they are called to account across the airways and in newspapers by people who, in the main, have never expenienced the trials of top class com-

How can we know fully the frustration of missing crucial putts in a major championship, dodgy line calls, questionable decisions by referees and umpires? What do we know really about the disturbing effect of ill-mannered spectators, of putting up with snarling obscenities?

Of course, individual temperament comes into this, which reminds me that an opinion held here too long to be lightly dismissed is that

handy lead slipped away during the second round of last week's US Open golf championship he re-vealed again the petulance that may well prevent him from winning

major. Television pictures of Montgomerie calling out angrily to the galleries, fixing greenside audiences with a withering stare, remonstrating with cameramen and hurling his toin off glove aside after one marginal error again suggested that if his game is in pretty good order there is room for an advance in com-

Pressure, you may agree, is going home to a cardboard box, housing benefit, fruitless attendance at the

When Colin Montgomerie's job centre. You may also concur with the widespread view that sporting heroes who don't have to worry over where the next Porsche is coming from cannot expect much in the way

of sympathy.

People who devote their lives to children's games are often so infantile in their approach to the world that you steer clear of their company. I am reminded here of the famed golfer, a much travelled man of considerable means who was asked over dinner one night how he felt about the US decision to drop bombs on Libya. Clearly elsewhere at the time, he replied, "I think the 12th at Augusta National is just about the toughest par-three in the



However, there is another side to all this. Sporting heroes are not required to light up a room with couversation and we have to ask

ourselves how much they should be

prepared to take from the audience. When Eric Cantona leaped into the

an abusive Crystal Palace supporter a case was made for him in some quarters, but there was no earthly excuse for a violent outburst that almost put paid to his career in Eng-

It isn't often that I can be accused of standing up for the overpaid and over-exposed but what is the limit of obligation to the good name of a game and its traditions? Can temperamental behaviour be improved upon? Would Montgomerie be as much of a great golfer if he suppressed his emotions? Ernie Els. who eventually finished a shot in front to win his second US Open. provided an interesting comparison. The South African looked ice cool

It was in the nature of Nobby

Stiles to rage against injustice. The toothless, cavorting symbol of England's World Cup victory in 1966, his place was at risk until Alf Ramsey accepted that he had not deliberately fouled a Frenchman. In the very next match, the infamous quarter-final against Argentina that saw their cap-tain, Rattin, sent off, Stiles was spat upon. Seeing this, Ramsey lowered his head. When Ramsey looked up Stiles was yards from the incident wiping away the spittle. "It was one of the best moments I've known in football," England's manager said. With Wimbledon's annual fuzz

ball festival almost upon us, doubt-

crowd at Selhurst Park to sort out and played accordingly. But that is less there will soon be fresh examinated an abusing Court Pales and played accordingly. But that is less there will soon be fresh examinated an abusing Court Pales and played accordingly. ples of irritating behaviour. Not quite in the McEnroe-Jimmy Connors class but enough to be going on with. If so the chances are that a lot of people will merely glance at the headlines, ask themselves what is unusual about that, and go on to read about prospects for the next foot-

ball season. As for Montgomerie, impulse and emotion are the burdens he has to live with. When he is pleased on a golf course he smiles; in a tantrum he scowls and acts as though the gods are conspiring against him. In his better moods Montgomerie can be charming and accommodating. But that's life and like the rest of us

Man with a reputation to live down

Mark Winters talks to Jeff Tarango. the man who walked out on Wimbledon

ff Tarango's best Wimbledon was also his worst. He had not gone beyond the first round in six attempts but in 1995 he attracted some attention by beating Andrei Medvedev on his way to the third round. Then he drew a great deal more by launching a remarkable verbal attack on the chair umpire, Bruno Rebeuh. during his match against Alexander Mronz which he

ended by walking off court. Defaulted for his actions, he was fined his prize-money and banned from the lawns of the All England Club for a year. Now he is back, older and, apparently, wiser. "In some ways it made me tougher. In some ways it made me understand the world bet-

ter," he says. He certainly understands the impact his startling exit made on the watching Wimbledon pub-lic and knows he will carry a cerlic and knows he will carry a cer-tain reputation on to court with his rackets when he returns for more than £1m. His highest sinthis year's championships. which begin next Monday.

"I think it's a big deal for England, but for me it's Wimbledon, ent i love to bia he says. "It's another opportunity to do well." Which only makes his behaviour last time, when he was doing well, all the more difto bear and it's a strange one," he says of the incident.

The match itself against Mronz is incidental. The day became significant once Tarango had words with Rebeuh, accusing him of favouritism. From there things went from bad to worse. Tarango stalked off court and his French wife. Bénédicte. who had been watching the match, went after Rebeuh as he left and slapped him. She then followed her husband into the interview room where both pleaded his case to waiting journalists. Who remembers anything else about the match? What people remember is the fireworks and Tarango being de-

faulted for walking off court. The Californian is disarmingly honest about his behaviour that day. "I was a had boy and my mother told me I was a bad boy, he says. "I believe it was a mis-take for me to walk off the court. It was a scary incident for me. The bad thing for me is that I have this stigma before my name." But then, as if by justification, he adds: "I really do feel the game misses John McEnroe and needed another bad boy."

his behaviour in terms of reputation, he was made to pay financially straightaway. As well as having to hand back his £17,500 in prize-money, he says: "I had to pay tax on it before they asked me to pay it back as the fine, so I lost money."

that good."

much time on this."

ers say I am either crazy or I have a lot of character."

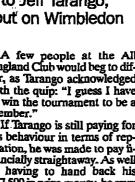
of weeks ago at the French Open, Thomas Muster refused to shake hands after a 7-5, 1-6, 6-2. 6-1 victory over Tarango. who, during the second-round match, had mimicked the way Muster walks and complained about his grunting. "He's grunting when I'm hitting the ball.



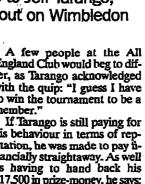
round defeats was not a freak performance. "It will be a challenge going to Wimbledon," he says. There were a few things said about how I had done in 1995. People didn't think I was

gles ranking is No 42, achieved in 1992. In doubles, he reached No 32 in the world last year. Tarango's script for Wimbledon then take on a seed in the sec ond or third and make a breakthrough. The draw handed him the chance to play out that scene ficult to understand. "It's my cross as he will face a qualifier in his opening match with the seeded South African Wayne Ferreira likely to be his second-round op-ponent if he wins. "It's not go-ing to be a big deal," he says of his first-round match. "It's going to be an anticlimax. There is going to be a crowd and they probably will be jeering. They will want me to do something, but I will not see anything but the ball. It will be kind of boring. I have been wasting too

Then again... Only a couple

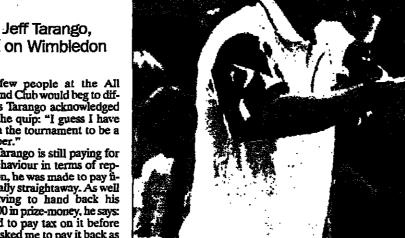


have never been like that.'



He is anxious to prove that he can play the game, that reaching the third round at Wimbledon after those six first-

Tarango, often his own worst enemy, can be intense and quick to take offence, but he can also be charming. "Other play-Tarango admits. "I was introduced to my wife as 'Crazy Man'. McEnroe was crazy. I





Jeff Tarango's infamous incident at Wimbledon in 1995, when he argued with umpire Bruno Rebeuh, while (inset) Thomas Muster (left) refused to shake hands after their match in this year's French Open

He's grunting when he's hitting the ball. He's grunting when I'm tossing the ball in the air. I mean, he's grunting a lot." Tarango said after the match. "He has such a big ego that if you take a little of his limelight. he just doesn't like it."

That episode looked like Tarango being Tarango but he insists there was more to the story. He says Muster apologised to him later that day for not shaking hands. "He said he a racket or clothing contract.

was tired and was caught up in the match," Tarango said. Whatever the facts, none of this on-court melodrama does Tarango much good, and he admits to regretting the Wimble-don incident. "It was a tragedy. It was not good for sports. It was not good for anyone." he said.
"I think everyone has the perception I'm making money on

Everyone I know gets bonuses. I'm on the Grandstand Court or the Centre Court and I'm not paid a thing. Television is making money. I go to the press conferences and they want to agitate me to get their sound bite. If I do not go, I'm fined. It's strange because I'm part of the promotion, but I'm not part of the business. this. I'm going to be 29 in Oc-

Wimbledon - the tournatober and I'm not. I do not have ment, not just the 1995 row - is part of him. "People do not re- yourself.

alise that I missed my high school graduation to come to Wimbledon and play the juniors," he says. "Playing there has always been a big deal to me. If you check the record, I have screwed around and done weird things at other tournaments, but I had never had a fine, never had a warning, at Wimbledon until 1995. There is no way I would

want to hurt the tournament." You didn't, Jeff. You hurt

Henman still searching for comfort zone

GUY HODGSON

reports from Nottingham

It was at the Nottingham Open 12 months ago that Tim Henman discovered the form that swept him to Wimbledon's quarter-finals; this year he is groping around in the dark trying to locate it somewhere.

He beat Australia's Richard Fromberg 6-4, 6-7, 7-6 which pushes him into the last eight at the City of Nottingham Tennis Centre, and with seeds becoming something of a threatened species, he is now the most likely recipient of the

£28,000 first prize on Saturday. The way he is playing, however, logic does not come into it. Yesterday his form came and went like someone had turned off a tap. At a set up and a break up Henman was heading for a routine victory, but by the end he was fortunate to cling on for what was his first win over someone in the top 200 since his

elbow operation in March. "It's very, very frustrating," he said after a 2hr 13min trial of his temperament. "I'm having to battle and fight just to hang in there." A player in the world's top 20 on his favourite surface should be finding things easier against someone ranked 81 places below him.

The point when the contest went out of his comfort zone arrived precisely at the same time as in his previous match the eighth game in the second set. Henman's judgement went awry as he let go two shots that bounced in and suddenly he had surrendered the advantage of a break and then the set tomed to reach the final.

when he lost the tie-break 9-7. Worse followed when Hen-

man weakly hit a forehand into the net to go 2-3 down in the de-ciding set and at 5-4 Fromberg, who delivered 20 aces, was serving for the match. Fortunately Henman broke when he had to and reached the quarter-final by winning the tie-break 7-4.

The thing to take from that is that I kept going," he said.
"You create your own luck and hopefully that will give me the chance to kick-start an improvement. Ive got another match now and that's important." Jim Courier would endorse

that. It is only four years since the American was runner-up at Wimbledon and at 26 he is bardly past his physical prime. Yet, thanks to injury and a slump, he arrived at Nottingham 28th in the world and will have not have enhanced that much after going down 4-6, 6-4, 6-2 to Australia's Jason Stoltenberg.

lara pais for

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The day before Courier, a confirmed back-court player with four Grand Slam titles to his name, was saying he was becoming accustomed to the pace of grass although he gave a good impression of losing it completely as Stoltenberg took 12 out of the last 16 games.

That accounted for the sixth seed and the fifth and reigning champion, Jan Siemerink, followed soon afterwards, going down 5-7, 6-4, 6-2 to South Africa's Grant Stafford.

This left only Henman and seeds and as the former is as inconsistent as the wind and the latter lost to the 19-year-old Briton, Martin Lee last week at Queen's, neither is copper bot-

Cash stays alive

Pat Cash, the 1987 Wimbledon champion, used all his grasscourt experience to pull himself back from the brink of defeat at the qualifying event at Rochampton yesterday.

Cash, who was 32 last month, heat the American Steve Campbell but was in trouble when he trailed 3-5 in the final set. The Australian eventually wrapped up a hard-carned 4-6, 6-2, 11-9 victory after a marathon contest which had kept the crowd enthralled for two hours and 20 minutes.

Miles Maclagan, last season's British No 5, played one of his best matches when he defeated the French seed Frederic Fontang 7-6, 6-2. Maclagan is now the only survivor in the event from 10 British players. Tony Pickard, the former British Davis Cup captain. helped spur 19-year-old Amanda Janes to victory in the open-

Janes, the tall, agile daughter of the former Wimbledon finalist Christine Truman, overcame Lilia Osterloh of the United States 6-2, 6-2, needing five match points in the eighth game of the second set as her concentration began to waver.

ing round of the women's singles.

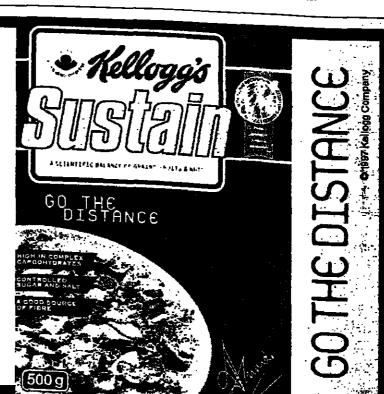
It was an encouraging win for Janes, ranked 466 in the world against a stylish but often erratic opponent ranked 284 places above her.

Pickard, who had travelled down from his Nottinghamshire home, revealed afterwards that he had been asked by Janes' mother to advise her daughter. "At this stage I like what I see," he said.

Janes' win was one of three for British players in the women's event and followed victories for Louise Latimer, the reigning junior champion, and Karen Cross.



THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN BREAK POINT AND BREAKING POINT.





*A long century of Lord's misfortune

Adam Szreter tries to discover why Australia have such an incredible record in Test matches at the home of cricket

he freakish fact that England have won only one Ashes Test at Lord's this ecentury prompts at least two uestions. The first is why. The second is why England are not quadrennially in fear of failure at Lord's any more than any Other venue.

At the most famous ground in the world Australia usually win, and almost never lose. and it is probably because it is Lord's, the home of cricket, that their record is so good. Ask any Australian, if they had to choose just one place to make a century or take a hatful of wickets on this tour, it would be Lord's.

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For the England players, perhaps, the experience is not so special. Most play there once or twice every season, the Midllesez players all season long. Also it would be understandable if Graham Thorpe, for example, took more pleasure from making a hundred at The Oval, his home ground, or Darren Gough from taking 10 wickets at Headingley. No one is sug-gesting England players do not try hard at Lord's - but it seems the Australians try harder.

Since 1896, when Australia lost by six wickets after being bowled out for 53 on the first morning (Surrey's speed merchant Tom Richardson taking 6 for 39, all bowled), England have only one victory at Lord's to savour, and even then the weather played its part.

In 1934, a year after the infamous "Bodyline" tour, the Australians, Bradman and all, st 18 wickets in a day after beavy overnight rain had produced the proverbial sticky wicket. Yorksbire's Headley

Verity made the most of it with his slow left-arm to finish with 15 wickets in what became known thereafter as Verity's Match, a win for England by an innings and 38 runs

Neville Cardus, in his report for the Manchester Guardian, wrote: "Verity's flight and length were exactly right, visible temptation. And his break and rise from the ground were exactly right, too, visible betrayal. He bowled not more than three loose balls while the Australians first innings died the death; his run to the wicket, so loose and effortless, was feline

At the most famous ground Australia usually win and almost never lose

in its suggestion of silkiness hiding the claws." Phil Tufnell, it seems, may not have been the first England slow left-arm bowler to be called "The Cat".

That was it as far as England were concerned. Australians, of course, have enjoyed many a famous hour there at England's expense, none more so than Bob Massie in 1972, who took 16 wickets on his Test debut. When England won the Ashes under David Gower in 1985 by three Tests to one, the one lan Border made 196. Most re-Mark Taylor and Michael Slater around.

all made centuries and Mark Waugh 99 as Australia rattled up 632 for 4 declared to win by an innings. But even that does not beat the effort of 1930.

Replying to England's 425. of which Duleepsinhji made an attractive 173, Australia amassed 729 for 6 declared, their highest total in England and the highest ever made at Lord's. Bradman made 254, reportedly a faultless innings which he has since described as

England, with Hobbs. Woolley and Hammond in the side. responded with 375 in their second innings but it was not enough and they lost by seven wickets - all within the space of four days. Bradman returned to Lord's

to make an unbeaten century in 1938, when Hammond made 240, and 10 years later, two months short of his 40th birthday, Bradman made 89 in his last Test appearance there.

For England the heroics of Bailey and Watson in 1953 stand out, but alas their stubborn partnership was a matchsaving effort rather than a winning one. Starting today, England have

one last chance to make amends before the century draws to a close. Could 1997 become Gough's Match, or Croft's, or will the Australian batsmen rise to the occasion once again? As to why England do not go into the game bedevilled by fears of a Lord's jinx, no satisfactory answer can be they lost was at Lord's where Al- found; but if Australia win again, perhaps we'll all be cently, in 1993, David Boon, twitching when 2001 comes



The England captain, R E S Wyatt, shakes hands with King George V before the start of the 1934 Test against Australia

Leaders Kent held up by Lewis

Round-up ADAM SZRETER

The Championship leaders, Kent were frustrated by the former Essex opener Jon Lewis's first Championship century for Durham at Darlington yesterday.

Lewis was on 129 after an unbroken eighth-wicket stand of 88 with James Boiling that hauled the hosts up from 127 to 215 for 7 by the close. Their captain, David Boon, was out for a duck.

Mark Ramprakash led his Middlesex side out of trouble at Bristol against erstwhile leaders Gloucestershire, for whom Mike Smith took 5 for 23 in 18 overs.

Middlesex were 47 for 5 before their new captain made 75 to help them reach 237. Before the close Angus Fraser took two of three Gloucestershire wickets to fall with only 57 on the board.

Matthew Hayden, the Australian left-hander, scored his fourth century in as many matches for Hampshire, put in to hat by the bottom side Northamptonshire at North-

Hayden struck 27 boundaries in his 150 and put on 189 with Kevan James (56) and 79 with Robin Smith (71no) as the visitors reached 335 for 4 by the close.

Jason Ratcliffe and Alistair Brown both scored centuries as Surrey's batsmen tucked into the Worcestershire bowlers at New Road to score maximum

batting points.
The former Warwickshire batsman Ratcliffe, 28 on Friday, raced to three figures off 160 balls with 17 fours and a six off the first delivery of the day from Bobby Chapman. He put on 179 in 38 overs with Brown, whose 121 was his second century in four innings. Surrey finished the day on 382 for 7.

Iain Sutcliffe hit his maiden Championship century as Leicestershire dominated the opening day against Somerset at the Bath festival. The 22-year-old former Ox-

game, fielding on the boundary. The official explanation was ford University batsman scored 112 in a total of 337 for influential figure - was "finding 3 off 100 overs against an injury-hit attack after the visitors had won the toss.

It was a had day for Somerset, who lost newly capped pace bowler Andre van Troost with a hamstring injury and their Pakistani leg-spinner. Mushtaq Ahmed, with a knee problem.

Glamorgan's Steve James was left one run short of his century when rain prevented any further play against Lancashire at Liverpool.

James had made a brilliant 99 not out, with Adrian Dale unbeaten on 34, as Glamorgan moved to 173 for 1. James' opening pariner Hugh Morris

Lara pays for late arrival

Brian Lara has been fined by the West Indies for arriving late for last week's first Test against Sri Lanka. Lara, who had disciplinary problems at the World Cup and on the tour of Australia last year, has been fined 50 per cent of his match fee.

The West Indian players assembled in St John's last Tuesday for the Test starting on Friday, but Lara did not arrive planation that he missed his flight was not accepted as a satisfactory excuse by the team's management.

Lara was reprimanded by the West Indies Cricket Board after incidents at the World Cup and warned that any future acts of indiscipline would be dealt with strongly.

The fine comes just two days before the second and final Test against Sri Lanka starts in Kingstown, St Vincent.

Byas sparks Yorkshire Barnett fined £1,500 JON CULLEY

reports from Trent Bridge Yorkshire 364 Nottinghamshire 5-0

Nottinghamshire, whose elevated position in the Britannic Assurance table still stretches logic a little, had their limitations exposed as Yorkshire took advantage of a perhaps misleadingly green pitch to establish a position of strength.

The assessment is qualified on the assumption that Paul Johnson, the Nottinghamshire. captain, expected there to be something in it for his seam attack when he asked Yorkshire to bat first. It may have been a sound judgement.

The day's events, however. probably led him to doubt himself a little more with each passing hour. Given the success

Bowen, who have more than 50 wickets between them, Johnson has every reason to back his bowlers. But although both had success here - Evans taking his second five wicket haul of the season - they took a little longer to settle on a rhythm and a decent line and length, allowing

Yorkshire to prosper.

David Byas, with his third century of the season, Martyn Moxon and Darren Lehmann were the chief beneficiaries of the home side's shortcomings as Yorkshire made merry progress at more than four runs per over. Evans' delight at claiming the wicket of Richard Kettleborough with the ninth ball of the day was short-lived.

Moxon continued to promise a sustained return to form with his third half-century in four innings off 85 balls, outpacing Byas in a stand worth 103 be-

so far of Kevin Evans and Mark fore Evans had him lbw. The partnership for the third wicket between the left-handers, Byas and Lehmann, was more productive, adding 135 in 29

> Lehmann, the Australian who Yorkshire signed to replace For much of the time there was Michael Bevan, is earning his wages handsomely. In seven Championship matches, he has made two centuries and, with this one, five scores over 50. Byas's hundred was made off 156 balls, with 14 fours and a six, pulled over mid-wicket off Evans.

He was striking the ball with such authority that it came as a surprise that having collected four more boundaries, he should give away his wicket tamely, driving Nathan Astle straight to mid-on. Nottinghamshire fought back in the second half of the day as Evans finished with 6 for 91 and Yorkshire's last six wickets fell for 78.

reports from Derby Sussex 200-9 dec

more activity off the field than on it here vesterday. Off it as the Dean Jones affair rumbled on, Derbyshire fined their former captain Kim

Barnett £500, with a further £1,000 suspended, for breaking the club's ban on public comment about Jones' resignation last week. On it, Sussex, after opting to bat on a pitch with more than a tinge of green, found the ball moving around all day. After batthing through the morning session for the loss of one wicket, they probably expected a more prosperous outcome.

So, for that matter, did Barnett, who said he was amazed

Bowling: Taylor 23-8-60-3; Boswell 18-3-90-1; Hughes 16-3-54-0; Curran 16-7-49-0: Snape 21-5-44-0; Barley 6-0-13-0; Watton 4-0-23-0.

but the fine itself". He had apparently said on local radio that he felt the coach, Les Stillman, should dissociate himself from Jones' allegation that he was not being supported by senior players and that the club

"not only at the size of the fine Adams, one of the most ac-

should hold an internal inquiry. Barnett, who will appeal against the fine, stayed off the field at tea - interestingly, the umpires allowed a substitute - to prepare a statement in which he said he felt he had not brought the club into disrepute but mere-ly reported the feelings of the majority in the dressing-room. But by issuing that statement Barnett again contravened club rules. Derbyshire's chairman, Mike Horton, said Barnett had not been given permission to make

further comment and therefore would be fined the extra £1,000. An even more bizarre aspect of the day was the sight of Chris

to slip, where Rajesh Rao was dropped at five. This concentrated Rao's mind so well that he spent 113 balls over 16 runs. but without his resilience Sussex might well have lost half their wickets before lunch.

complished slip fielders in the

Adams - to whom Jones was an

it hard to concentrate in his cur-

In the middle, with the ball

swinging and moving lavishly off

the seam, more confident sides

than Sussex would have had

their work cut out. And, of

course, given the Adams situa-

tion, nothing was more certain

than the first chance would go

Afterwards, Derbyshire got

rent state of mind".

their rewards but so did Sussex when they picked up two wickets after a thoughtful declaration.

Britannic Assurance County Championship (Pirst day of tour; today 11.0)

Derbyshire v Sussex DERBY: Destructive (4pts) are 197 runs be-hind Suspec (1) with all first-landings wick-

hind Stanoor Log-ets standing. Sussex WO7 Doss Sussex Finat Innings. N 1 Lerham Dw b Dean R K Rao Bar b Harris N R Taylor o Jwests b Adred C W J Athey c Adams b Defrei K Newell c Clarke b Defrei K Newell c Clarke b Defrei *†P Moores c DeFreitas b Harris V C Drakes c Harris b DeFreitas

* THE INDEPENDENT LIVE COMMENTARY 0891 881 485 COUNTY **ROUND UP** 0891 525 075

DERBYSHIRE - First lanings A S Rollins c and b Drakes Extras (nb2) 2
Total (for 2, 3.4 overs) 2
Total (for 2, 3.4 overs) 3
To bet: K.J. Bernett, C.J. Adams, J.E. Overn, V.P. Clarke, Y.K.M. Kniden, *P.A.J. DeFreitzs, P. Akired, A.J. Harris, Bowling: Drakes 2-2-0-1; Kirdey 1.4-1-2-1 pires: A Clarkson and T E Jesty.

Durkem v Kent DARLINGTON: Durkem (1.pt) ere 21.5 for 7 in their first loxings against Kent (3). Durkem won loss

Durann won uses

DURALAM - First Innings

J B Lewis not out.

P D Collingwood c Llong b Phillips

J E Monts or Pulton b Strang.

**D C Boon c Llong b McCegue

**M P Speignt c Strang b Headiey

M M Foster c Wells b Fleming

M M Betts c and b Fleming.

**M P Betts c and b Fleming. 7-127. To bet: S J E Brown, A Welker. To bet: S J E Brown, A Welker. Towards McCague 16-2-31-1; Headiny 19-5-46-1; Fleming 19-4-47-2; Philips 16-6-37-1; Strang 30-9-48-2.

SI-12 SURING SUPPLIED AND J Welker, TR Werd, AP Wels, N J Llong, M V Flerning, P A Strang, B J Phillips, "TS A Marsh, D W Headley, M

Gloucestershire v Middlesex

Total (78.5 overs) 237
Fait 1.7, 2.7, 3.27, 4.27, 5.47, 6.133, 7.157, 8-233, 9-237, 9-5; Lewis 16-0-72-1; Alignes 16-73-7-2; houng 13-1-49-1; Hancock 9-2-30-0; Ball 5-1-14-0. GLOUCESTERSHIRE - First innings

LIVERPOOL: Germorgen (O points) at for 1 in their first innings against Lane (O). Germorgen won loss Glamorgan won toss GLAMORGAN - First Innings S P James not out



Glamorgan's Steve James on his way to 99 not out before rain stopped play at Liverpool yesterday

Keedy. Umplires: J H Hempshire and A A Jones. Northants v Hampshire
Northamptok Hampshire (3pts) are
335 for 4 in their first heings against
Northamptonshire (1).

NORTHANPTONSHIRE: M B Loye, R J War-ren, "R J Batley, K M Curren, T C Walton, D J G Sales, 1D Ripley, J N Snape, J P Tay-lor, S A J Boswell, J G Hughes. Umpires: B Dudieston and N T Plews. Notthehamshire v Yorkshire Notthing semistative v Yorks into TRENT BRENGE: Notting semishre (4) this are 359 runs behind Yorkstine (4) with all first-limings wickers standing. Notting semishre wor ross YORKSTINE - First insings. M D Mozon live b Evens 60 R A Kerdeborough Ibw b Evens 3. "D Byes c Johnson b Astie 1128 D S Lehmann b Bowen 62 D S Lehmann b Bowen B Parker Ibw b Archer C White c Pollard b Evens ...

Somerset v Leicesterskire BATH: Leicestershire (3pts) are 337 for 3 in their first innings against Somerset

(1). Leicestershire won toas E - First lenings V J Wells low b Mus

Milling Shine 17.4-4-56-1; van Troost 9.2-1-69-0; Rose 17-3-55-0; Mushtaq 15.3-6-32-1; Kerr 18-3-67-1; Parsons 14-4-35-0; Parsian 9.3-4-19-0;

Bowler 8.3-4-18-0.
SDMERSET: M N Lathwell. *P D Bowler, P C L Holloway, R J Harden, K A Parsons, 1R J Turner, G D Rose, J I D Kerr, Mushraq Ahmed, A P van Troos, K J Shine.
Umpires: J C Balderstone and G I Burgess.

WORCESTERSHIRE: W P C Weston, T S Curtis, G A Hick, K R Spiring, V S Solariu, G R Haynes, D A Leatherdale, *†S J Rhodes, S R Lampett, A Sheriyar, R J Chapman.

Umpires: J O Bond and R A White,

SECOND XI CHAMPIONSHIP (First day of three; today 11.0): Swansea: Glamorgan 170 for 7 (1 Thomas 43.1 Demck 33no. K T Sheeraz 4-60) v Gloucestershire. Taunton: Durham 363 for 9 dec (D G C Ligerwood 134no. D Blerkivon 50): Som-erser 43 for 1. Canterbury, Dethyshire 201 Ligerwood 134no. D Blenkunn 50): Someset 43 for 1. Canterbury: Derbyshre 201 (M J Vandrau 56no): Kert 47 for 1. Hind: Leicestershire 214 (Mascon 57no. Stevens 50): Surrey 92 for 1. Horsham: Warwickshre 230 (W G Man 77. M D Edmond 55, M R Strong 4-38); Sussex 55 for 1. Maddlesburwigh: Yorkshre 235 (Z C Morrs 57, A Wyke 4-29): Wordestershire 47 for 2. Middleton: Northamptonshre 335 for 6 IA L Penberthy 89, R R Montgornene 56, K J Innes 72no, A J Swann 51) v Lancashre.

Today Second Test

(First day of five, including Sunday, 11.0)



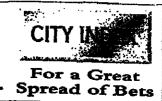
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For a Great Spread of Beis

A century of misfortune

Adam Szreter on England's abysmal Test record at Lord's, page 31

sport

Return of the bad boy

Jeff Tarango is back to court Wimbledon's approval, page 30



England following Atherton into uncharted territory

Cricket

DEREK PRINGLE

It is 10 years since the streetwise wags in the Lancashire dressing-room daubed the letters FEC, meaning Future England Captain, over Michael Atherton's cricket coffin. But if that jape began as a dig at the slight and studious fellow who had appeared in their midst, it has ended up as prophecy on a grand scale, and this morning the whole of Lord's will rise as Atherton overtakes Peter May's record and leads his country for

With typical bluffness, he

the matter more than a passing thought. After all, it is England's last chance to beat Australia at Lord's this century: 100 years that has yielded just a single victory against the old enemy, in

"I'll be too busy setting the field or working out where I'm going to get my runs to bask in the achievement," said Atherton yesterday as England prepared for the second Test against Australia.

Captaincy is all about decision-making and by the time Atherton ponders the merits of batting or bowling, he will have already decided whether the

feels he will not be able to give cracked pitch will have warranted playing the extra spinner, Philip Tufnell. My guess is that it will not and that England will be best served by playing Devon Malcolm and batting first, should they win the toss.

The pitch is firm and has re-

cently been relaid, but substantial cracking at this stage of proceedings will mean larger variations in bounce as the match goes on. It is also a little damp, which may tempt Atherton into bowling first, a temptation that should be avoided unless a poor long range forecast is taken at face value - which Atherton assures

After Edgbaston, nothing would demoralise the Aussies more than coming up against an unchanged team being cheered on by an expectant Lord's crowd. England cannot bank on the same kind of boisterous support as they had in Birmingham. but public optimism is such that once the champers and

smoked salmon sandwiches

have been downed, it would not

be surprising if 20,000 patriot-

ic windpipes were to rise to the Sensing an Australian fightback Atherton is keen for as much vocal support as possible, but draws the line at some of the

boorish chanting and booing

that was aimed at Australia in the first Test. "The crowd lifted us at Edgbaston, especially on that first morning. The lads felt that and appreciated it."

But while surging confidence is a good thing, there is still a lot of unplayed cricket in this series. Australia are the most resilient side around and, with Paul Reiffel now installed, a stronger side than the one we saw a fortnight ago. Unlike Atherton, Mark Taylor is not used to coming from behind, and he will have made sure his team have gone back to basics by hardening their outlook and reining in their extravagances.

Atherton, on the other hand,

a justifiable case for being sacked, it probably explains Atherton's longevity. Captaining England is one of the toughest jobs in sport, and one made virtually intolerable when your team loses more than they win.

finds himself in the unusual po-

sition of leading an Ashes series.

As he moves into seventh place

in the pantheon of Test captains,

he is the only one in the top

eight who has lost more Tests

But while failure may provide

(11) than he has won (13).

Yet it has been Atherton's incredible ability to withstand the pressure of defeat, and keep his dignity intact that has kept him his job. But while most

captains resign when the job gets on top of them, Atherton, knowing that alternatives were both few and futile, has simply dared others to sack him.

Until now, it is a call my bluff that he has not played nearly so well on the field. But with a devoted team around him, currently playing urgent and sensible cricket, that may all he about to change. After all, some people are just slow learners who take a while to come to terms

with the fatalism of the job. In a way his biggest challenge may be about to start. With a 1-() lead, public expectation is as high as it has ever been and there is a danger he may beEngland's advantage as if it were

an osprey egg. He reckons not and claims that the "processes which you go about getting a good result are the same whether you are one up or one down". Let us hope he is right and that the weather stays fair long enough for him to be proved so.

ENGLAND (from): M A Acherton (capt), M A Buicher, A J Stewert (wkt), N Hussain, G P Thor-pe, J P Crawley, M A Ealthern, R D B Croft, D Gough, A R Caddick, D E Malcolm, P C R Tufnell, AUSTRALIA: M A Teylor (capt), M T G Ellott, G S Blewert, M E Waugh, S R Waugh, M G Bevan, I A Heaty (wkd), S K Werne, P R Reif-fel, M S Kasprowicz, G D McGrath.

var, in S vasprowez, 6 0 Modrati Umphres: D R Shepherd (Engla Venkataraghayan (India).

Majoli miffed after being marginalised

Tennis

JOHN ROBERTS reports from Eastbourne

There was a bit of a to-do at the Direct Line Championships yesterday here. One of the interviewees requested that she be allowed to ask a question first. "Who won the French Open?"

"A girl from Zagreb colled Iva," promptly came the answer from the man from L'Equipe. Andre-Jacques Dereix. Oh, yes, and what is her oth-

er name? "Majoli," replied Andre-

Jacques, smiling.
"Oh, yes," said Iva Majoli, perhaps you could tell that to the WIA Tour and the tournament director, so maybe they will have a bit more respect for me. the French Open champion. and put me on the Centre Court rather than Court 10 or 15."

It was Court No 2, actually. but not even the intrepid Andre-Jacques had the heart to correct the miffed Majoli.

Even if my dog had won the French Open, he would deserve to be on the Centre Court. 19-year-old Croat said.

It was one of those hellbath-no-fury days in women's

Nathalie Tauziat, who edged out the 17-year-old Venus Williams, 6-3, 5-7, 6-4, received a warning for being coached from the stands. One game later, the Frenchwoman made a rude gesture with an arm. "I did it because I was in a rage," Tauziat, the 1995 champion, said. Majoli, the No 3 seed, appeared to be more upset about the perceived snub than about losing her opening match against Natasha Zvereva, 6-2, 7-5

The Centre Court had been reserved for singles involving Jana Novotna, the No 2 seed. who defeated Yavuk Basuki. 7-5, 6-4, the match between Tauziat and Williams, and Monica Seles, the top seed, who beat Naoko Sawamatsu, 6-2, 7-5.

George Hendon, the tournament director, explained that he

Thomas Muster has withdrawn from Wimbledon with a hip injury. Sweden's Jonas Bjorkman takes the Austrian No 6 seed's place in the draw and faces Chris Wilkinson in the first round. Jennifer Capriati has to her right leg. Her place will be taken by a qualifier.

had been advised on the order of play by the referee and the WTA director. What we had here was an abundance of top players," Hendon said, "We played the No I and No 2 seeds into account that the public were fascinated by Venus Williams.

"I would have been guilty of letting 5.000 people in the grounds and putting her on a court with room for 500 to 600 spectators. So on Court No 2 we played Arantxa [Sanchez Vicario, the No 4 seed] and Iva. I agreed with the advice I got."

Majoli was not impressed.

Having thrashed Martina

Hingis, the world No 1, in Paris and then spent a couple of days being feted in Croatia, she had anticipated make a rather

grander entrance in England. There is a big difference between Court 2 and Centre Court," she said, "and I thought I deserved to be on the Centre Court," she said, before preparing to leave for London to complete her preparation for

Majoli has never won a match on the lawns of the All England Club. "This year I have a different attitude going into the first round at Wimbledon," she said. "Nick Bollettieri [her coach] is coming over to help me. I'm just going to concentrate on the first round. It's very important for me to win."

The spectacular Venus Williams also hopes to make an impact in SW19, along with paying a visit to the Tower of Lon-

Tauziat looked as if she would like the Tower to revert to its original purpose after the umpire reprimanded her seconds after she had broken Williams back to 4-4 in the final set.

been coached by Regis de Camaret, who was seated in a stand behind one of the baselines, arguing that she was not being coached at the time of the warning.

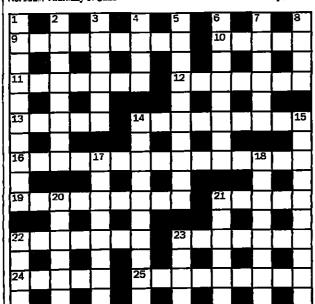
Later, when interviewed in French, Tauziat said, "All coaches coach. When Mrs Hingis sits beside the court and talks to her daughter, nobody gives her a warning or anything.



The American Venus Williams heads for defeat against Nathalie Tauziat, of France, at Eastbourne yesterday

Photograph: Allsport

THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD No. 3329, Thursday 19 Jun



- **ACROSS** 9 Drink (fruit) brought back in pot (9) 10 Open decapitated fish
- 11 Flourishing leaves round North enthral (7)
- 12 Fasteners reached round 1 legs, buckled (7) 13 Merry fellow's missed departure (5)
- 14 Being suited to an action will prove effective 3
- 16 A case of wrongful arrest? (15)
- 19 Speculated? Greek is insolvent, apparently (9) 21 African worker in British Union (5)

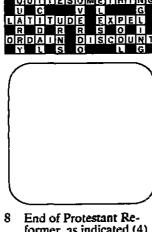
22 Herb's audible wise-

crack is nonsense (7)

3

- 23 Results of cases (7) 24 A litre at end of bar is stale (5)
- 25 Nothing, having been
 - With which to control beetles, etc. and maybe dispel with time? (5.5) Signs of the times in Shanghai (8)
- Note inclination to withdraw (6) Fish, dead one (4) Disconnected, like certain houses? (10) Clear up? Little chap's
- French sauciness cut the ice (6)





- former, as indicated (4) 14 An essential for Foreign Nothing, having been Exchanges... (6,4) iced badly. is yielding (9) 15 ... worried after pound
 - weakened (10) 17 Radio left with expert 15 Pope's name? That's simple (8)
 - 20 Like an Arab? A German without question 21 Army egghead (writer)
- rank (6) 22 Problem over an unknown girl (4) taken in good and prop- 23 Crosses river on stones,

initially (4)

_ ii)

turned up, concealing

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Gray pencils Yorke into his Everton plans

Football ALAN NEXON

Andy Gray. Everton's managerin-waiting, has put the Aston Villa striker Dwight Yorke at the top of his shopping list. The Sky pun-

dit worked with Yorke when he was Villa's assistant manager. Everton are on the verge of naming Gray as manager, al-though there is still the question of his backroom staff. Gray's preferred line-up is to have Richard Money, currently coaching with Manchester City, team up with

Colin Harvey, another former

Everton manager, who rejoined

the club yesterday as director of youth coaching.

Howard Kendall, the Sheffield United manager, was originally proposed as general manager by Johnson, but Gray will reserve the right to appoint his own men. Blackburn Rovers are trying to sign Martin Dahlin. Their manager. Roy Hodgson, worked with the 29-year-old Swedish striker in his Malmö days. Hodg-son has had a boost, with the French right-back Patrick Valery agreeing to join in a fortnight when his contract with Bastia

The England physiotherapist. Alan Smith, is to take a leading role with Blackburn by heading the club's medical department. His involvement with the national squad will not be affected. Peter Beardsley has rejected

a move to Bolton. The former England international had been made an offer by the Wanderers manager, Colin Todd, but has chosen to stay with Newcastle. Another player to spurn Todd vesterday was his right-winger Scott Green, who agreed a move to Tranmere in a £300,000 deal.

Wolves veteran Andy Thompson also joined Tranmere yesterday. on a three-year contract. Manchester United officially withdrew their £5m bid for Bayem Munich's Markus Babbel yesterday as the centre-back accused

them of using him as a bargain-

ing tool. They were using me as a decoy in order to be able to negotiate harder with another player," he said.

Rangers have signed the 26year-old Perugia striker Marco Negri on a four-year contract following a £3.7m move. Another of their potential foreign recruits, the Dutch goalkeeper Oscur Moens, may decide to join Real Madrid instead, though. The 23-year-old AZ Alkmaar player returned home yesterday after two days of talks at Ibrox

with his future still unresolved. David Bellotti, Brighton's chief executive for the last three and a half years, is to leave the club as part of the new ownership agreement announced by the Football Association in April. His departure was a clause of the deal which gives club chairman Dick Knight's consortium the same 49.5 per cent shareholding as former co-owners Bill Archer and Greg Stanley.

England youth in luck. page 28

Inquiry into Henry collapse

Boxing

The British Boxing Board of Control is to hold an inquiry into Chris Henry's fight at Cheshunt on Tuesday night. It left the Tottenham boxer requiring an emergency operation to remove a blood clot.

The inquiry will be staged by the board's Southern Area Council, and will be attended by Henry's manager, Jess Harding, and his promoter Frank Maloney. It is likely to take place in the first week of next month.

The board's strict medical procedures appeared to be in order after Henry, 28, had been stopped in the 10th round of his Southern Area title defence against Havering's Dominic Negus. But the board will still examine its handling of events after an exhausted Henry had collapsed and was rushed to Oldchurch Hospital, about 20

ble condition in intensive care. The board's secretary, John Morris, said: "When we have an injury in the ring, the doctors

and ourselves will take a look at what we do. Henry was MRJscanned within the limits before his previous Southern Area title fight last February. He was properly medicalled. He was fit."

The board has invited the Minister for Sport, Tony Banks, to attend Naseem Hamed's International Boxing Federation and World Boxing Organisation minutes away in Romford. Henfeatherweight title defences at ry remains in a critical but sta-Wembley Arena on 19 July. Morris and the board's chairman. Leonard "Nipper" Read, want the minister to have a close-up of their fight night operation.

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